

McGrath's allegations 'scandalous and extraordinary'

'Shred papers' order denied by Saunders

By Ray Heath

Mr Ernest Saunders, the sacked Guinness chairman who is accused by his former personal assistant of ordering vital documents and diaries about the Distillers takeover to be shredded, yesterday branded her a liar in the High Court.

On Friday, Mr Saunders's former personal assistant for five years, Mrs Margaret McGrath, said Mr Saunders had given her the instructions, in the face of a Department of Trade investigation into the company last December. But in an affidavit read out on his behalf in court by Mr Philip Heslop, QC, Mr Saunders said any allegation that documents were destroyed or altered on his instructions was entirely untrue.

Yesterday, Mrs McGrath refused to comment further on the allegations, but her husband Robert insisted that his wife had been telling the truth. "She has made a sworn affidavit. You can't get anything

more solemn or sacred than that," Mr McGrath, when asked to comment on the fact that Mr Saunders had said Mrs McGrath's allegations were "scandalous and quite extraordinary," said: "Well, he would, wouldn't he? He is hardly going to admit it, is he?"

Mr Saunders, in his affidavit, flatly denies Mrs McGrath's allegations that shortly before Christmas he ordered documents to be taken from "certain files" and destroyed.

He said he had no idea why she was no longer working for Guinness but continued to be paid by the company until the end of May.

He also asked the court to consider the terms used by Mrs McGrath. In her affidavit

McGrath had been telling the truth. Explaining why he had copied the diary, Mr Saunders said that because of the atmosphere at Guinness after his summary dismissal, he was aware that people were seeking to make trouble for him.

A copy of the diary had been given to the Department of Trade inspectors, according to the affidavit.

Mr Saunders said Mrs McGrath's claim that he was concerned about who knew about an appointment he had with a Mr Heuberger in Switzerland in November and that he had instructed its removal from his diary was demonstrably untrue.

Although his wife was mentioned in Mrs McGrath's affidavit, Mr Saunders said Mrs Saunders was in no condition to deal with the matter and he was not prepared to question her, or allow his solicitors to do so. Mrs Saunders is believed to be unwell in a Swiss hospital.

The court is hearing an application by Mr Saunders for the removal of an order obtained against him in March, which fixes his assets up to a value of £5.2 million. This is the figure allegedly wrongly paid by Guinness to Mr Thomas Ward, a Guinness director, who is also affected by the order.

Mr Heslop submitted yesterday that the "draconian" order freezing the funds would not have been made without the suggestion that Mr Saunders benefited from the money.

This allegation was withdrawn by Guinness on Friday.

Saunders denial 23

that Mr Saunders had asked for the Distillers bid files, and later handed her a bundle of documents which were then passed on to Miss Melanie Burford, Mr Saunders's secretary, who put them in an envelope which was normally used for papers waiting to be shredded, Mrs McGrath said she had no doubt that the papers were going to be destroyed.

It was revealed that Mr Saunders had a photocopy made of his office diary. This showed details of a party he attended, organized by Mr Riklis. Mr Heslop produced for the Vice-Chancellor, Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, a copy of a page of the diary which showed the entry referring to the party. This, claimed Mr Saunders, would have been removed if Mrs

Suspect embassy officer missing

By Richard Ford and Michael McCarthy

The Irish Government, already embarrassed by Sunday newspaper allegations of a passport-for-sale racket at its embassy in London, was further embarrassed yesterday when the official alleged to be at the centre of the affair disappeared.

Mr Kevin McDonald, who is alleged to have sold false passports for large cash sums, possibly to nationals of states involved in terrorism, failed to report to the Department of Foreign Affairs in Dublin yesterday as he had been ordered.

Confusion surrounded his whereabouts last night. The department in Dublin and the Irish Embassy in London resolutely refused to say whether they knew where he was. However, London diplomatic sources suggested he was in hiding but in touch with the embassy through solicitors.

Last night Sir Anthony Kershaw, chairman of the Commons Select Committee on Foreign Affairs, who has called for a government inquiry, commented: "This is a ridiculous situation. It is vital that this man is found and interviewed as quickly as possible so that we may ascertain which passports are suspect; otherwise all Irish passports may have to be looked at."

Mr McDonald was passport officer at the Belgrade embassy and when word of the allegations reached the Irish authorities last week a senior official at the Department of Foreign Affairs, Mr Ted Barrington, flew to London, interviewed him and ordered him back to Dublin.

After his non-appearance yesterday Mr Barrington was forced to fly back to London to look for him. He was accompanied by Mr Conor Murphy, head of the Irish Consular Service, and Mr Steven Farrington, the Assistant Garda Commissioner responsible for state security.

Mr Farrington has no power of arrest over Mr McDonald in London.

An Irish Department of Foreign Affairs spokesman yesterday denied a report that 400 passports had been stolen from the office, but detectives are still investigating the disappearance of a package of 25 passports in 1985.

Mr McDonald married for the second time in January this year. His bride was an Iranian. In Dublin yesterday his wife, Jacqueline, said: "I am very frightened. I haven't heard from him since this came out."



Mrs McGrath photographed outside her Surrey home yesterday

Jails will soon hold 50,000

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Figures released yesterday reveal Britain's prison population rapidly approaching the politically sensitive figure of 50,000.

The Government could find itself fighting a general election with both damagingly high crime and prison statistics rapidly approaching the politically sensitive figure of 50,000.

Contingency plans already exist to ease gross overcrowding by opening up converted Service camps, one of the five emergency options open to the beleaguered prison department.

Official figures released yesterday show the 1986 prison population to have reached 46,300. However, inquiries by *The Times* show that this figure has now reached 49,634, including immigration detainees.

Increases in remand prisoners and offenders given stiffer sentences are the main reason for the rise.

As well as having to deal with the record population, prisons are confronted by:

• A ballot on May 5, 6 and 7 by prison officers on whether to accept the most

Continued on page 20, col 1

Gulf War peace move reported

By Hishir Talmouh

Saudi Arabia is understood to be attempting to bring about a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war on April 29.

Timed to coincide with the beginning of Ramadan, the Muslim fasting month, the ceasefire would mark the start of peace talks. According to Iranian sources, the substantial progress has been made in indirect talks, in which the Saudis have represented the interests of the Iraqi Government.

Last month's state visit to London by King Fahd of Saudi Arabia coincided with a little-publicized mission by a leading member of Iran's Supreme Defence Council, Dr Kamal Kharrazi. The sources say a meeting was held between the Saudi Foreign Minister, Prince Saud al-Faisal, and Dr Kharrazi. It was said to be the first contact, albeit indirect, between the protagonists since the Gulf War started in September 1980.

Both sides appear ready to make substantial concessions if the Iranian interpretation of progress so far proves correct. A face-saving formula is said to be under development to accommodate Ayatollah Khomeini's insistence that there can be no peace while Iraq's President Saddam Hussein remains in power. The President would voluntarily step down, though perhaps only briefly, and a coalition

government would be formed. An Iraqi opposition source told *The Times* that he had been approached and asked whether he would participate in such a government. The arrangement would allow President Hussein to remain his country's strong man without actually holding any formal position. Dr Kharrazi recently startled journalists in Tehran when he said that the mere resignation of the Iraqi President would qualify as due punishment in the eyes of Iran.

Although no confirmation of the talks was available from the Saudis or Iraqis, Iranian sources told *The Times* that they were at an advanced stage. A powerful government faction which recently tried hard to persuade the Ayatollah to end the conflict was said to be involved.

He was being advised that the country's economy was exhausted, and a number of recent military offensives launched against Iraq in the region of Basra, Iraq's second city, had achieved little.

Observers have noticed that the Ayatollah is no longer insisting in his public speeches that the war be continued until there is a complete victory over Iraq. He has also recently held unpublicized meetings on this subject with his top officials.

Extradition ruling

DPP studies Heysel appeal

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

The Director of Public Prosecutions will decide later this week whether to appeal against the High Court ruling yesterday that prevented the extradition of 26 football supporters from Britain to face trial in Belgium on manslaughter charges after the Heysel stadium riot in which 39 died.

Delivering the judgement Lord Justice Watkins said writs of habeas corpus were granted to the supporters with "very considerable dismay" but the correct legal procedures had not been followed.

The English evidence which included work by British police to identify supporters in the riot and interviews had not been authenticated, properly sworn for the proceedings, within a two month deadline laid out in an article of the extradition treaty with Belgium.

The problem could have been avoided by flying the witnesses to Belgium and

allowing them to make their statements to a Belgian court so that the evidence became Belgian.

Lord Watkins, who said the judgement was "deeply regrettable" in the light of the riot and the deaths, was also critical of the way other extradition proceedings had recently been handled. The extradition process was started by the staff of Sir Thomas Hetherington, the

Case collapses 3
Law Report 36

DPP, and the warrants were issued last month by Mr David Hopkin, the chief stipendiary magistrate.

But the High Court judgement, nearly two years after the riot, may prove only a temporary reprieve for the supporters, who remain on bail till the DPP decides whether to start afresh or launch an appeal.

In Belgium Mr George Spreutels, chief adviser to the Justice Minister, said last night: "We are determined to continue the fight for extradition."

The trial of three Belgians facing charges connected with the riot had been postponed until the extradition case had been decided. Mr Spreutels said all should be tried together. "For us it is a question of the administration of our criminal justice."

Sir Harry Livermore, solicitor for a number of the supporters, said the extradition had been bungled. "This ruling leaves these men in the position they were in before they were arrested," he said.

"I think it is very unfair to have this hanging over these men after what they have gone through over the past six to eight months."

He said the proceedings had cost £500,000 to £750,000 in legal fees.

Extra session in Moscow raises arms talk hopes

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

Moves to secure a speedy agreement to remove all medium-range missiles from Europe dominated the crucial new round of Soviet-American talks which opened yesterday with two meetings and a third unscheduled session between Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, and Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, his Soviet counterpart.

Although news of the surprise extra negotiating session raised hopes that the two sides might be making significant progress, Mr Charles Redman, the State Department spokesman, said: "I would not read anything positive into that."

The extension of the negotiations gave added significance to the meeting between Mr Shultz and Mr Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, which has been provisionally arranged for this afternoon. Both sides acknowledge that the success or failure of this week's deliberations will determine whether or not there remains any chance of a third Reagan-Gorbachev summit.

Despite the bitter espionage row which preceded the first contact between the two foreign ministers since their abortive session in Vienna last November, official sources on both sides are cautiously optimistic that progress towards the first superpower arms accord in nearly a decade can be achieved during Mr Shultz's three-day stay.

There were indications that American officials were seeking to play down the earlier emphasis on KGB penetration of the US Embassy in Moscow. They refused to confirm reports from other Nato embassies here that all Mr Shultz's communications with Washington are being conducted from a special bug-free caravan installed in the underground car park of the new embassy compound.

According to the Western reports, US counter-surveillance experts had great difficulty in positioning the trailer and eventually had to let down its tyres to enable it to pass through a low archway.

Continued on page 20, col 6

Delegations at yesterday's talks included arms control experts, among them Mr Paul Nitze from Washington and Mr Viktor Karpov from Moscow. Their deliberations were accompanied by a personal letter from President Reagan to Mr Gorbachev, the contents of which remained a closely-guarded secret.

The talks are being closely monitored by Washington's Nato partners from their respective Moscow embassies.

In a controversial move designed to draw attention to US support for Jewish dissidents and those refused emigration visas, Mr Shultz last night attended a special Passover dinner at the American Ambassador's residence in Moscow. It was also attended by American Jews based in Moscow and Soviet Jewish refuseniks.

Moscow "inquest" 7
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Senior diplomats believe that the US and Soviet leaders are under heavy pressure for differing domestic reasons to secure a medium-range missile deal which would be ready for signing before the end of the year.

Soviet commentaries which continued even after Mr Shultz's arrival claimed that what has been dubbed the latest round of US "spymania" has been deliberately whipped up by hawks inside the Reagan Administration opposed to any new move towards an arms control accord.

In the first official Soviet comment on the talks, being held in an elegant 19th century mansion belonging to the Foreign Ministry, Tass stated last night that the two men were "considering in a concrete way prospects for working out an agreement between the USSR and the United States on removing medium-range missiles from Europe."

The official news agency

Former Getty curator admits blame for fraud

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Dr Jiri Frel, who ran a large tax fraud while a curator at the Getty Museum in California, has accepted full responsibility for the affair, which was disclosed in *The Times* in February.

"My superiors, they were not guilty of any of my misdeeds," the Czech-born curator said in Rome.

Dr Frel, aged 63, recruited donors to the antiquities

department of the museum, which he ran, by arranging large overvaluations of their gifts. In America gifts to museums are tax deductible and many donors were able to make a profit.

Donations totalling over \$14 million, at Dr Frel's valuations, in the 11 years he was in charge.

Spectrum, page 12

INSIDE

Tutu leads prayer for detainees

Archbishop Tutu led 750 - including the first black US Ambassador to Pretoria, Mr Edward Perkins - in Cape Town prayers for detainees yesterday, defying new regulations issued by the South African Government. Page 7

IN PART ②

Oil shares hit

Shares of the warring Texaco and Pennzoil groups were marked down on the New York Stock Exchange where analysts said Texaco would come out on top. Page 21

Glaxo slips

The shares of Glaxo Holdings, producers of Zantac, a drug which treats ulcers, fell 7.2p to £14.31 despite a 45 per cent interim profits rise to £376 million. Page 21

Safety pass

Manchester United are the first leading English Football League club to announce the introduction of a membership scheme. It is based on passport-style passes. Page 42

Portfolio Gold

● There is £8,000 to be won today in *The Times* Portfolio Gold competition, double the usual amount as there was no winner yesterday. ● The weekend game will be played on Good Friday when the weekly prize will be £16,000, also double the usual amount, as well as the daily prize. So be sure to order *The Times* ● Portfolio list, page 27.

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Positive drug tests shake snooker professionals

By John Goodbody
Sports News Correspondent

Six drug tests on leading snooker professionals have proved positive over the last 15 months. Five were for betablockers and the sixth was for a stimulant. More than one player is involved.

News of the latest positive test was confirmed yesterday at the headquarters of World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association in Bristol, only five days before the World Championship, the climax of the season in Britain's favourite television sport, begins in Sheffield.

Mr Paul Hatherell, the WPBSA tournament director, said: "We are investigating this latest incident. I

cannot give you the name of the competitor involved." Mr Gordon Ingham, Chairman of WPBSA's Drug Control Committee, confirmed that five tests had been positive in 1986. "But I do not think the names should be released. There were extenuating circumstances in all the cases."

"The drugs were not being taken to give the players an advantage. The players had medical reasons for taking the drug and an individual's health is something private. There are no skeletons in the cupboard of snooker."

Neither Mr Hatherell nor Mr Ingham could say how many players on whom tests had proved positive. Beta-blockers are widely used for heart complaints but they have also been banned by the International

Olympic Committee because of widespread misuse by some competitors, particularly shooters, seeking to relieve anxiety, stop tremors and slow their heart-beats.

Under WPBSA rules, a competitor can be barred for six world-ranking tournaments and forced to give back his prize money. A second offence can bring a lifetime ban.

The Drug Control Centre at King's College, London, which is funded by the Sports Council, analyses the urine for all relevant drugs proscribed by the IOC and then passes on the results to the governing body for action.

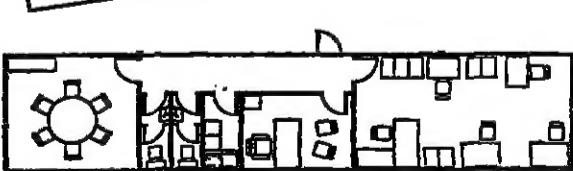
In the major snooker tournaments in 1986, 197 competitor were tested. One positive was for a stimulant, phentermine, which is commonly

found in appetite depressants, and the rest were for propranolol.

The WPBSA pays King's College £26 for each test. But the actual cost is over £70 and the deficit is made up indirectly by the Government.

Mr Barry Hearn, manager of many of Britain's leading players, including Steve Davis, and also a member of the WPBSA Board said: "I only know about two of these incidents - one involving the slimming tablet and one incident of taking betablockers. We were told in February that the player who had taken the betablocker had gone on to some sort of natural treatment. I will be making my own enquiries. But I can assure you that none of my players is involved."

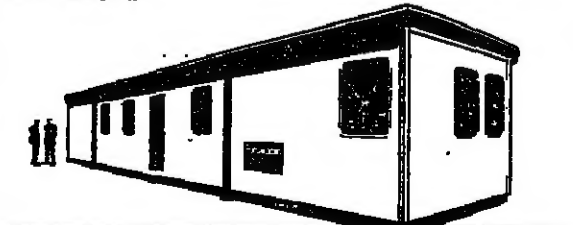
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NEWS SUMMARY

Channon to stop shares deception

The Government looks set to announce legislation shortly to prevent those with voting rights in companies from hiding behind the names of nominee shareholders, as happened in the Westland affair.

The Commons trade and industry committee said in a report last month that it strongly suspected that an illegal "concert party" was behind the purchase by five foreign "front" companies of 21 per cent of Westland shares at a critical time and at nearly double their value.

It called for early legislation requiring the prompt disclosure of the identity of those controlling the voting rights of shares, and in a reply to that report published yesterday, Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, rejected strong criticism of the "lack of co-ordination on matters of major policy" between the Department of Trade and the Ministry of Defence over Westland. He has already announced a review of the Takeover Panel, which will cover nominee shareholdings.

'Informer' killed

The Provisional IRA said last night it killed an "informer", Charlie McIlmurray, whose body was left in a van on a garage forecourt at Killeen, Co Down, on Sunday night.

The security forces waited several hours before moving in as they feared the terrorists might use the corpse as a bait to lure policemen into a booby trap.

The IRA statement alleged that Mr McIlmurray, of Andersonstown, west Belfast, was a former member of the Provisional IRA who was encouraged to rejoin by Royal Ulster Constabulary Special Branch officers after he was detained in connection with a drink-driving offence last October. The RUC would not comment.

Gift of a garden

One of the finest gardens in the west of England has been given to the Royal Horticultural Society.

Rosemore, with eight acres of gardens and 36 acres of farmland, is the gift of Lady Anne Palmer and the Rosemore Garden Trust and will establish a centre for the RHS in the West Country.

Mr Robin Herbert, president of the RHS, said: "The society is overwhelmed with this outstanding gift."

Rosemore is close to Great Torrington, north Devon.

Rush for coal jobs

British Coal's plans to recruit new miners for its North East coalfield, for the first time in five years, has brought a flood of applications from jobless youngsters.

There have been more than ten applications for each of the 200 jobs on offer although the notices advertising the vacancies were only on show at the area's eight collieries for a week.

The new recruits will start on a basic wage of £111.35 and begin training at the surface before moving underground.

'£200m sea treasure'

Treasure recovered from a wreck off the Devon coast could be worth £200 million, rather than the original estimate of £20 million, it has been claimed.

Divers from a joint Danish-British team are daily retrieving art treasures from the P & O ship, Medina, which sank off Start Point after being torpedoed by a German submarine in 1917. Diving will continue until the end of the month.

Danish reports have speculated that the cargo could be worth £200 million because it is so well preserved. It includes gifts from Indian maharajas to the Royal Family, and the art and jewel collection of Sir Charles Carmichael Monro, former Commander-in-Chief of India.

Officers see girl

Policemen specially trained to question children have spoken briefly to the girl aged four who was abducted from near her home outside Glasgow and sexually assaulted.

They saw the girl in Yorkhill Hospital in Glasgow as other officers continued house-to-house inquiries in the streets of Hamilton where she lives.

Police said yesterday that it will be tomorrow at the earliest before the girl is well enough to be interviewed for any length of time.

Snub for Welsh

The TUC's finance and general purposes committee yesterday rejected the Wales TUC's demands for more autonomy, in spite of warnings from senior Welsh trade unionists that a rejection could lead to a unilateral declaration of independence.

The Wales TUC's proposals for greater determination to pick their agendas, to become involved within the national disputes procedure and to legitimize the international role of the Welsh TUC, were rejected.

European theatre

More than 200 young people from 20 European countries will take part in a two-week theatre project in England this summer aimed at transcending cultural and linguistic barriers.

Mr Peter James, director of the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, will co-ordinate a number of drama workshops at Stratford-upon-Avon in July and August.

The participants, aged between 16 and 25, will stage events in local schools, day centres and hospitals and a performance in the Royal Shakespeare Company's Swan Theatre.

The initiative was launched by the Council of Europe in 1985 during International Year of Youth. Eastern Europe is represented by Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

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Steady fall over 7 months in those out of work

Unemployment may go under 3m

By Ronald Faux
Employment Affairs Correspondent

Unemployment in Britain is set to fall below three million, setting another marker for the general election date.

After optimistic forecasts by Lord Young of Grafton, Secretary of State for Employment, and the continuing improvement in the British economy, figures to be announced tomorrow at the Department of Employment could be within a whisker of the emotive three million mark.

The other strands which suggest that the unemployment tide might have turned are the continuing fall in the number of jobless: an average

drop of 24,200 a month for seven consecutive months.

That ranks as the best improvement for 14 years. In addition the seasonally adjusted figures for March are set for an unexpectedly high improvement.

School leavers may dent the improvement but the Government is expected to give strong encouragement to young people entering the jobs market who are unable to find work immediately to join one of the employment initiatives designed to pave the way to full-time employment.

At present there are 1.181 million on such schemes, including 327,900 on the Youth Training Scheme.

Lord Young yesterday re-

jected criticism by Mr Norman Willis, general secretary of the Trades Union Congress, that the Government was manipulating official statistics and hiding damaging evidence.

"I fear you have let yourself be taken in by your own propaganda," he wrote to Mr Willis.

The changes that had been made and which had affected the figures were not as many as the critics suggested and Lord Young did not accept that no improvements should be made to the administration of benefit in case there was some effect on the statistics derived from the system.

Lord Young said it was his job to find as many routes

back to employment for as many unemployed people as he could.

"This with the sound economic policies of the Government, is a positive attempt to solve a very difficult problem. The propaganda campaign waged by our critics does nothing to solve the problems we face; all it does is illustrate how little our opponents have to offer on that front," he said.

A Young people voting for the first time in the next election overwhelmingly see unemployment as the most important problem facing them, and the Labour Party enjoys the most support among 18 to 22-year-olds, according to a new opinion poll published yesterday.

But more think Mrs

Thatcher is a better future leader of the country.

The poll was carried out by Marplan for BBC Radio 1 using a sample of 700 18 to 22-year-olds, representing the four million new voters, and its sometimes paradoxical results closely parallel the MORI poll for *The Times* of "Thatcher's Children" last September.

Unemployment was cited by 70 per cent of the respondents when asked, unprompted, "What are the most important problems facing you and people like you in this country today?"

A total of 21 per cent responding to the poll listed Aids, unprompted, as one of their main concerns.

Teachers' work to rule 'is inevitable'

By Sarah Thompson
Education Reporter

A teachers' work-to-rule will be the inevitable consequence of the Government's imposed pay and conditions contract, a senior member of the moderate Assistant Masters' and Mistresses' Association told her union conference yesterday.

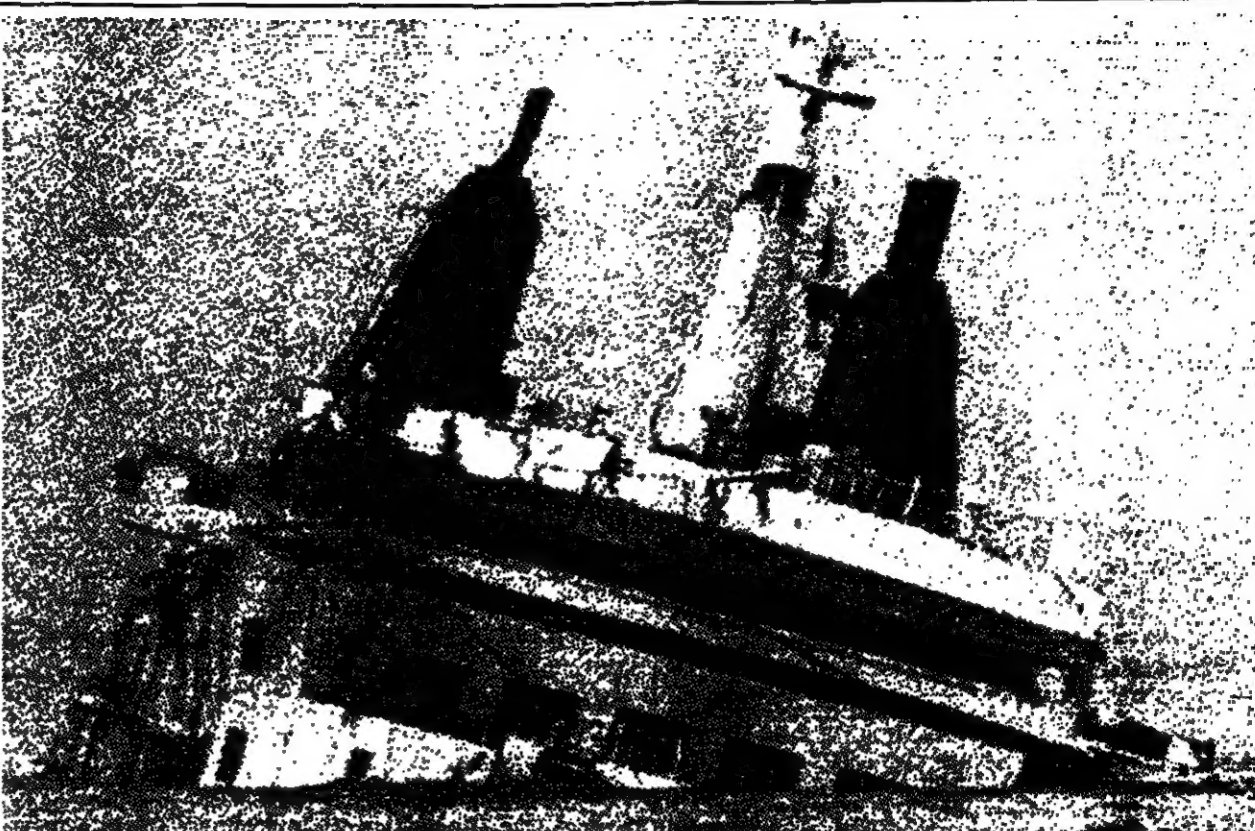
Mrs Irene Watmore said: "The AMMA will continue to provide service for our pupils. It is our duty to ensure that we do not fail our pupils in the way this Government has so far failed us." She added: "The inevitable consequence of the imposed settlement will be a work-to-rule."

Mrs Watmore proposed an unopposed motion calling for teachers' negotiating rights to be restored. Mr Frank Grouke, the association's president, continued the all-union attack on Mr Baker's decision to replace the statutory negotiating body, the Burnham committee, with an interim advisory committee for three years.

He said that its failure over the past 12 years was due largely to the Government's "deliberate and senseless use of its veto on negotiations".

He attacked the two larger unions who are planning a series of half-day strikes after Easter. He said that the public "was beginning to see teachers in the image they had fashioned for themselves: as a group, whose characteristic behaviour over pay was similar to that of dockers, miners, steel and shipyard workers, and to be similarly judged".

The association voted overwhelmingly to support the local government Campaign for Local Education.



The stricken car ferry, Herald of Free Enterprise, listing at a 15 degree angle yesterday as salvage work resumed after the weekend storm. Stabilizing cables were reattached and operators said there was no danger of her tipping back to her side.

Young out of touch says strike leader

By Roland Rudd

A Civil Service union leader yesterday criticized Lord Young, Secretary of State for Employment, for his "ridiculous and out of touch" comments on the Civil Service strike.

Mr Terry Ainsworth, acting deputy general secretary of the Civil and Public Services Association, said: "Lord Young should shut up and take stock of the causes of the strike instead of its effects."

Lord Young of Grafton accused striking Civil Servants, who closed DHSS and Department of Employment offices in Northern Ireland and Scotland yesterday, of targeting their action on the

most vulnerable section of the community, the unemployed.

Mr Ainsworth said the Civil Servants had no alternative. "We can knock out computers and close down excise offices but all the Government needs to do is sell off the rest of British Telecom and they have made up the difference."

Nearly 4,000 staff in DHSS and unemployment benefit offices in Scotland and Northern Ireland went on strike yesterday. Belfast's two centralized benefit offices and the Livingston computer centre in Lothian, Scotland, one of two national centres controlling unemployment benefit, will be affected by industrial action later this week.

Customs men in Northern

Ireland began a seven-day strike yesterday, with the strikers predicting chaos at ports and the border with the south. Aldergrove Airport in Belfast will also be hit, with "honesty boxes" replacing customs checks.

The Republic's customs men have agreed to co-operate with colleagues in the north by not allowing freight south without the required documents.

Mr John Murray, general secretary in Belfast of the Civil and Public Services Association, said: "We think there will be big trouble at all the major points of exit and entry."

The Ulster Farmers' Union said: "Many of our members

feel they could be caught in the Republic unable to bring their cattle or grain through and so be stuck running up huge bills."

The Customs and Excise Office said senior management were taking on the extra work, and the strike was not a "charter for smugglers".

Court staff in London joined the strike yesterday, which could mean prisoners on remand will have a longer wait for bail. Clerks staged one day pickets outside Wells Street and Marlborough Street magistrates courts in central London, which probation officers and postal workers refused to cross.

Civil Service vacancies, page 5

Local authority borrowing

Councils face higher costs

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Borrowing is likely to become more difficult and more expensive for local authorities after warnings by ministers at the weekend that the Government will not guarantee such loans.

Experts in the City also fear that although the ministers' remarks were directed at banks lending to a small group of left-wing authorities, the effect could be to increase the borrowing costs of all local authorities.

Mr Frank Woodford, a director of Sterling Brokers, a City firm specializing in local authority debt, said: "The latest government announcement could push borrowing costs for rate-capped councils up by as much as a further 0.25 per cent."

Rate-capped councils already pay a premium above the borrowing rates paid by

other councils for their money.

Local authorities at present have to pay about 9.625 per cent to borrow money for one year, but they could find themselves paying nearly 10 per cent because of loss of confidence among lenders.

"There is no automatic guarantee by the Government to cover local authority debt and there never has been," said Mr Peter Goodwin, secretary to the Public Works Loan Board, the official body which provides 60 per cent of all local government loans.

"We see many banks which do not understand this. They think it is exactly the same as lending to the British Government itself."

Foreign banks have taken

an increasing share of the local authority loan market in recent years with more than half the public lending now being to be coming from Japanese institutions.

"The Japanese banks are desperate for assets, and they're practically giving money away," commented one expert.

Local councils have debts totalling more than £5 billion, much of it coming from UK and foreign banks.

Last weekend Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, and Mr Rhodes Boyson, minister responsible for local government, criticized borrowing techniques such as sale and lease-back arrangements where an authority sells assets and then leases them back from the buyer over a period of time. Councils have also used property as security for loans.

Committees learn wheeler-dealing

By Ian Smith

Financial juggling has become a skilled accomplishment for finance committees and local authority treasury departments determined to obtain money for capital projects while avoiding government penalties for overspending on their budgets.

At the forefront are Liverpool City Council who have a £700 million loan portfolio. Mounting debts incurred by the former left-wing controlled authority were estimated to have reached £800 million by the time 47 Labour

councillors were expelled from office and replaced by a Liberal caretaker administration.

Liverpool's Labour council, regarded with suspicion by British bankers because of its reputed militant links, turned abroad for funding.

In 1985 it borrowed £30 million from the Union Bank of Switzerland and last year obtained a similar amount from the Yasuda Bank in Japan.

Both loans were obtained by the deferred purchasing

method which means the bank initially pays builders engaged on the various housing and road construction projects and only starts recouping money from the council once construction work has been completed.

Repayment on the Union Bank of Switzerland loans will begin next year and those to the Japanese bank 12 months later.

Interest rates negotiated with both organizations is 25 per cent above the London Interbank Offered Rate.

elections, insiders describe it as a "Mickey Mouse" outfit when compared to centre right party organizations elsewhere in Europe.

The final decision as to who would carry out the restructuring would rest with the Prime Minister, but in the event of a third successive Conservative election victory, Mr Tebbit would appear to be the obvious choice.

Another candidate mentioned for the job is Mr Peter Morrison, deputy chairman of the party.

Part of the difficulty facing Tory

ICI denies threat from 'brain drain'

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

ICI yesterday dismissed a suggestion by its former chairman, Sir John Harvey-Jones, that the company could be forced to move out of Britain if the "brain drain" of scientists continued.

The company said it had no difficulty attracting scientists. There were up to 5,000 applicants from new graduates for about 450 jobs each year.

Sir John, who was speaking last night on Granada Television's *World in Action*, retired this month after six years as chairman, during which he revived the flagging chemical firm to a position last year where its annual profit rose above £1,000 million.

The success included diversification into high technology and exploiting discoveries of new materials for the electronics industry.

The company said yesterday it was spending £391 million a year on research, shared between its 10,000 scientists in laboratories in Britain, the United States and Japan.

Sir John, Chancellor of Bradford University, said last night: "Once you start losing your leading edge, then things get worse and worse."

"But also, if you look at the actual funding of laboratories in the United Kingdom, first it is very short term and, secondly, the amount of capital behind each scientist in the United Kingdom is pitiful compared to other countries."

He added: "If British science goes down the slope or starts to lose its competitive

position then, over a period of time, one must question whether it's possible for a company like ICI to continue to be based in the UK."

Scientists who had joined the "brain drain" described in the programme their experiences in the US.

Dr Gordon Foulkes, aged 33, left a £14,000 a year post at the Medical Research Council laboratories at Mill Hill, north London, for a six-figure dollar salary to do research into cancer treatments for a New York company specializing in genetic engineering.

Dr Richard Flavell, aged 42, who was earning less than £20,000 a year four years ago in Britain as a government scientist, now earns £100,000 a year plus share options, as head of research for a genetic engineering company near Boston.

Yet the scientists said they would consider returning to Britain for lower salaries if it allocated the kind of support available elsewhere for civil scientific research.

This willingness to return might be dampened by the experience of Professor Derek Burke, who was tempted back from Canada to take over as vice-chancellor of the East Anglia University, which he did three months ago.

He was faced immediately with making a plan to absorb cuts that meant reduction in spending of £4 million over three years. Closure of the university's physics department was considered.

Leading article, page 15

Lifeline for yard in £50m contract

By Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent

Scotland's Govan shipyard, part of British Shipbuilders and due to run out of work this week, was saved just in time yesterday by a £50 million contract for "designer ships" from China.

The deal is the first to be won after the British Government's granting of a £300 million "soft" loan to China agreed by the two countries last May.

In the face of bids from West Germany's shipbuilding industry, the fiercest non-Far East competitor to British Shipbuilders, the UK state corporation was preferred by the Chinese to build the first two of a new generation of 46,000 deadweight-tonne container ships, each worth about £25 million.

The ships have been designed by British Shipbuilders specifically for the Chinese and were said yesterday to be the most sophisticated in their class.

The order will not halt the 500 redundancies at present taking place at Govan's Clydeside yard in Glasgow, nor prevent the lay off, with reduced pay, of up to 900 workers in the next few months before work on the Chinese ships is started.

But British Shipbuilders said yesterday that the order would secure jobs for about 1,850 Govan workers over the next two to three years.

More work will be available if the Chinese take up their option on a third container vessel.

This week, after sea trials, Govan will hand over to the P&O subsidiary, North Sea Ferries, a 31,750-tonne roll-on, roll-off ship, the last vessel being built in the yard.

Last night, Mr Maurice Phelps, acting chief executive of British Shipbuilders, said that the Govan workforce "thoroughly deserved" the order.

Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said the deal showed the Government could help industry to win orders.

Thatcher 'bullied' Church

A leading lay member of the Church of England claims today that the method used to select the new Bishop of Birmingham has wrecked the relationship between church and state (Our Religious Affairs Correspondent writes).

Professor Douglas Jones, a former senior member of the General Synod, says in a letter to *The Times* published today that Mrs Margaret Thatcher has acted according to the letter of the agreement between the Church of England and the State.

"She has turned it into a political appointment, by rejecting a candidate because he was too left wing. By doing so she has lit a fuse which will not go out until there is an explosion."

He was commenting upon the Prime Minister's choice of the Crown Appointments Commission's second preference, the Bishop of Kensington, the Rt Rev Mark Santer, for the vacant diocese of Birmingham, over the Bishop of Sturminster, the Rt Rev James Thompson.

Professor Jones was an influential member of the General Synod at the time of the church-state agreement in 1976 concerning the appointment of bishops.

Letters, page 15

Korchnoi and Kasparov in joint lead

Anatoly Karpov won his adjourned third round game in the Brussels "Super Grandmaster" Chess Tournament when his opponent Richard Muehlenders of Belgium resigned.

In the postponed first round game between Mikhail Tal of the Soviet Union and Yugoslav Grandmaster Ljubomir Ljubojevic, played yesterday, the players agreed to a draw after only 13 moves.

Tal replaced Robert Huebner of West Germany who was withdrawn because of illness.

After three rounds Kasparov and Korchnoi are sharing the lead with perfect scores of three points each.

Remaining results from the first three rounds and the players' standings:

Rank Name Country Points

1 Kasparov USSR 3
2 Korchnoi USSR 3
3 Ljubojevic YUG 2
4 Tal USSR 2
5 Muehlenders BEL 2
6 Santer ENG 1
7 Thompson ENG 1
8 Huebner GER 0
9 Van der Wiel NED 0
10 Wainwright SCO 0

Wainwright, page 15

Purchas

Heysel riot deaths

Extradition case collapses over deadline on evidence

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

Moves to extradite 26 Liverpool football supporters to face trial in Belgium on manslaughter charges after the Heysel stadium riot collapsed into legal debate yesterday when the High Court in London ruled that the extradition orders were unenforceable.

Lord Justice Watkins, sitting with Mr Justice Mann, ruled that the orders issued by Mr David Hopkin, the chief supervisory magistrate, were fatally flawed because legal procedures for gathering English evidence had not been followed.

The Crown had argued that the technicality did not apply and that other extraditions went ahead without meeting the deadline set out. When the point had been raised before the supervisory magistrate he had rejected the submission.

Last night one prosecution source said there was worry that the judgement could have wide implications for other extradition proceedings.

The 26 men face charges in Belgium over the riot in the stadium in Brussels in 1985 in which 39 people died before the start of the European Cup final between Juventus of Italy and Liverpool.

The judge said the court's decision was "deeply regrettable having regard to the horrifying circumstances from which the extradition sprang".

Lord Justice Watkins said the court granted habeas corpus to the men with "very considerable dismay". He said the situation could have been avoided if there had been more careful observation of the legal requirements of the extradition laws.

He added that such care

"has been absent in a number of extradition matters which have come to the notice of this court in applications for habeas corpus in recent times".

After the judgement in the High Court a spokesman for the Director of Public Prosecutions who is acting for the Belgian government, said the attempt to get the supporters to trial in Belgium would continue.

The High Court has refused leave to appeal against its decision but the DPP could go to the law lords and ask for leave to appeal direct.

The alternative might be to fly English witnesses to Belgium.

Mr Michael Sherrard, QC, for the DPP, said he would now "pursue extradition proceedings against each of the accused by the most expeditious route".

Flying the English witnesses (police) to Belgium to give their evidence in renewed proceedings would overcome the High Court objection that the linking evidence they gave in England fell foul of article 5 of the extradition arrangement with Belgium.

Lord Justice Watkins said in the judgement that for the English evidence to be admissible in extradition proceedings it had to be duly authenticated — sworn in for the criminal proceedings — and put before the magistrate within two months of the supporters' arrests last September.

The authentication had not been carried out in time and therefore there was insufficient evidence on which the magistrate could properly order extradition.



Mrs Caroline Pereira (left), who ran the Berkeley Dress Show yesterday at the Savoy Hotel, central London, toasts her daughter Victoria, aged 17, who modelled an Anneliese Sharpe wedding gown. Proceeds will go to the NSPCC (Photograph: Stephen Markeson).

Overtime demands threaten night TV

By Jonathan Miller, Media Correspondent

Demands by television technicians for "golden time" payments that could exceed £100 an hour are threatening to curtail the expansion of night broadcasting by the regional independent companies.

The payments are sought as compensation for working beyond the normal ITV sign-off time of about 12.45am. The dispute comes as the Government is putting pressure on commercial stations to reform work practices.

Channel 4, Yorkshire Television and Central Television, plan to be the first stations to begin overnight broadcasting. Channel 4 and Yorkshire are to broadcast three nights a week, starting April 23. Central will provide a seven-night service as a six-month experiment, from April 25.

Other stations, including London Weekend, Thames and Granada, are hoping to launch similar schedules by the end of August. London Weekend said it has reached an agreement in principle with unions, while Thames and Granada are still negotiating.

Smaller commercial stations say that until a new pattern of labour contracts is established, they cannot even consider extending their broadcasting hours.

The Independent Broadcasting Authority is understood to have told the companies that if they do not launch the overnight schedules, it may consider awarding a separate franchise modelled on the TV-am breakfast broadcasting contract.

Ulster Television remained off the air last night after an unofficial strike by some technicians, who walked out on Friday when the station dismissed a colleague.

Cancellation threat to Spanish flights

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Thousands of passengers booked to fly to Spain tomorrow will, at best, have to carry their own suitcases from their aircraft and at worst could find their trip cancelled or delayed.

Airlines were last night trying to reorganize their schedules to overcome another 24-hour strike by Spanish airport workers.

Meanwhile there was anger at the arrest of two Air Europe crew members for alleged strike breaking.

The walk-out means that there will be no baggage handling equipment to transfer the bags from the aircraft to the customs hall, no one to

drive the steps to disembark the passengers, and no one to check them in.

So far the strike, which has run intermittently for several weeks, has been overcome by airlines either using aircraft with their own steps on board — such as the Boeing 737 or the BAC 1-11 — or switching flights to take place before or after the planned strike.

The newer, wider body jets such as the 737, 767, the TriStar or the DC 10, need the airport equipment to disembark.

But as the number of flights builds up over Easter such manoeuvres will become increasingly hard to achieve.

Last night there were indications from Spain that the

workers may down tools for four consecutive days at the end of the month.

"That could hit us very hard indeed", Air Europe said.

The airline is waiting to interview two of its own duty officers who travelled with a group of tourists to Tenerife at the weekend and were arrested after helping them unload their bags.

Russel Jostie, aged 25 and Muhammad Saleem, aged 28, were both released yesterday after a judge had heard complaints from Spanish unions that they had been strike-breaking.

The two are expected back in London today.

Tour operators were meanwhile trying to put a brave face

on the problem.

But they are already drawing up contingency plans to ensure that any passengers who are travelling on schedule airlines, such as Iberia, are not stranded.

Last week, for example, Thomas Cook had to charter a private jet to pick up 20 such holidaymakers from Las Palmas.

They may have to do the same again if, as expected, the action by the ground staff in Spain escalates.

Luckily Wednesday is not the busiest day. Most package tours leave on Saturday and this weekend tens of thousands of passengers are expected to head to Spain for the Easter break.

Wrist injuries linked to VDUs

By Robert Matthews

Employers in Britain will not be able to ignore the effects of high-technology equipment on the workforce for much longer, according to an occupational health scientist.

Dr Peter Buckle, of Surrey University, said that evidence presented at an international conference being held this week in Guildford showed

that there was an association between hand and wrist injury and working at visual display units for long periods.

Pain suffered by workers, probably caused by a build-up of fluid pressing on nerves in the wrist, had led to a number of compensation claims, particularly in Australia.

However, such complaints

are not widely recognized by companies in Britain, Dr Buckle said.

Mr David Gee, of the General, Municipal and Boilermakers Union, said the reason for the sudden rise in the number of complaints from keyboard operators is the introduction of computer keyboards capable of coping with far higher typing speeds than manual typewriters.

Heart transplants

First operation at hospital

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

A man aged 47 received a new heart yesterday in the first transplant operation performed at the Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester.

The hospital, which is planning to carry out four or five transplants in the next 12 months, hopes to become Britain's fourth — and probably last — big heart transplant centre.

Yesterday's operation, which began at 4am and lasted three hours, was carried out by a team of three surgeons, Mr Ali Rahman, Mr Abdul Deraniya and Mr Colin Campbell.

The recipient was Mr David Ormiston, a father of six, from Wythenshawe, who had been on the hospital's waiting list for some time. His new heart came from a bachelor aged 30 who died after a road accident last weekend.

Mr Ormiston had hardly been able to walk after suffering a massive coronary attack a year ago, and doctors said he would have had to join a three

or four month queue at one of the three existing centres — Harefield near London, Papworth in Cambridgeshire and Freeman hospital in Newcastle upon Tyne — if the Wythenshawe team had not performed the operation.

The Government is to decide later this year where funds to establish a fourth centre will be allocated.

Wythenshawe, which financed yesterday's operation from a voluntary fund which has so far raised £80,000, is competing with hospitals in Sheffield and London for direct funding of about £660,000 for 30 transplants a year by 1989-90. Each transplant operation costs between £10,000 and £15,000.

Mr Simon Youatt, the hospital's general manager, said: "The reason we are carrying out the programme is because we feel the need is there, but obviously if we have a successful track record it will be looked on much more favourably when the choice of

a fourth transplant centre to be funded directly by the Government is made."

Gifts from the public, industry and medical firms have provided enough to cover a further three operations.

● The Government is also considering funding a national study to look into allegations that donor organs are not used for transplants because of acute staff and bed shortages in intensive care units.

A pilot study recently undertaken by Mrs Celia Wight, the transplant co-ordinator at Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, into why organs are not collected, found that in some cases hospital staff refuse to keep potential donors on life support machines because they are blocking beds.

"Some patients may be dying because potential donors are not being maintained on life support machines because of the pressure to use the beds for other patients", Mrs Wight said yesterday.

Maths call on using calculators

Schools are failing to use microcomputers and pocket calculators enough to change children's attitudes to mathematics, the president of the Mathematical Association told its annual conference yesterday (Our Education Reporter writes).

Mrs Anita Straker said a recent survey in London had shown that more than 40 per cent of children in the top class of infants' schools, 60 per cent of those aged 10 and 70 per cent of those aged 14 have calculators.

She added that in 25 years, children would be carrying in their school satchels "a small lightweight micro as cheap and as commonplace as the slate was 50 years ago".

Yet many teachers, she added, used new technology only "for things which we could do, and always have done, in better ways".

She said that new curriculum development was needed to make full use of the sophisticated calculations which children could perform.

Minister's defence of Latin

Latin is not a luxury, Mr George Walden, minister with responsibility for higher education, told a conference in London yesterday.

Quippe dixit: "The fact that people feel obliged to justify the classics is a poor comment on our educational values", (Philip Howard writes).

Mr Walden was addressing a conference on classics and language awareness, organized by the Joint Association of Classical Teachers and King's College, London, at King's.

He said that he was encouraged by the practical commitment of classics teachers to keep their languages alive.

He said: "Latin helps children understand English and scientific terminology. Imaginatively taught, it widens their understanding of the present by reference to the past. The intellectual effort it requires is excellent training for other subjects and for many types of work. It is painfully simple-minded to believe that the classics conflict with technology."

Schoolboy must walk 5½ miles

A normal, healthy boy should be able to walk the 5.5-mile return trip from his home to school, a High Court judge in London ruled yesterday.

Mr Justice Mann rejected suggestions that Christopher George, aged nine, would get "too tired". He refused to rule that the boy was entitled to free transport.

Dismissing an appeal by the boy's parents against Devon County Council's decision, the judge said he took into account that the route to school was by country lanes used by tractors, milk tankers and cattle wagons.

It was "practicable" for the boy's stepfather, Mr Paul George, who is unemployed and has no car, or his mother to walk with him, the judge said.

The boy lives in Dennis Close, Thornbury, near Holford, north Devon, which is exactly 2.8 miles from his school.

The family's lawyers said the judge's decision could mean an 11-mile walk daily for the parents.

House purchase scheme 'unlawful'

A solicitor who ran a computerized conveyancing service intended to make house purchase as simple as buying a new car was accused yesterday by the Law Society of acting unlawfully.

Mr Ian Jefferson, describing himself as a conveyancing expert, provided packaged conveyancing services through his company, Homechange.

Mr Nicholas Paton, counsel for the Law Society, told a disciplinary tribunal in London that Mr Jefferson was in breach of Law Society rules preventing solicitors from advertising for business.

Although those rules had recently been relaxed they did not allow solicitors to promote themselves as experts, Mr Paton said.

Mr Jefferson, whose company is based in Acton, west London, is charged with conducting unbefitting a solicitor in that he aided and abetted Homechange to commit a breach of section 22 of the Solicitors Act.

Under the Act, only solicitors or individuals acting for themselves may draw up a conveyance.

Mr Jefferson claims that if he wins the disciplinary

proceedings, it will widen the ability of solicitors to attract business.

He argues that the restrictions imposed by the Law Society on the ways in which solicitors provide and market their services are invalid because they are illegal restraints of trade and not in the public interest.

The tribunal last night rejected a call for the case to be dismissed on legal points and ruled that Mr Jefferson had a case to answer on the disciplinary charges.

The hearing continues today.

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Senior Civil Service jobs left vacant for lack of recruits

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The Civil Service is facing difficulty in recruiting sufficient people of adequate calibre to fill a rapidly increasing number of vacancies.

The number of applicants for civil service jobs fell marginally last year while the number of vacancies shot up by 19 per cent to 11,203, according to the annual report of the Civil Service Commission, published yesterday.

Twenty-six per cent of those vacancies went unfilled, but the figures disguise an even more alarming discrepancy between the numbers of applicants and vacancies for science, engineering, computing, accountancy, surveying, actuarial, legal and other specialist or professional jobs.

There was, for example, a "dramatic" 40 per cent increase in vacancies for experienced scientific officers.

In spite of increased recruitment just 62 per cent of those vacancies were filled compared with 79 per cent the previous year.

Some of the best and most experienced staff were leaving and the Civil Service was "thus being depleted not only of experience at the higher levels but also of the

type of experience needed to direct scientific work".

In the professional and technology category only half the 1,778 vacancies were filled.

The commission says the situation gives "cause for concern". It cites a number of underlying reasons, particularly the inability of the Civil Service to compete with private sector pay and the reluctance of potential new recruits to live in London or the South-east, where living costs were high.

It refers to the inadequate supply from universities of graduates trained in the right disciplines and says the Civil Service "faces fierce competition from other employers for a shrinking stock of talent".

The commission says the dominance which Oxbridge graduates have traditionally enjoyed among the top posts in the Civil Service was broken last year.

Fewer than half the graduates taken on as Civil Service high-flyers last year came from Oxford or Cambridge. It is the first time the number of Oxbridge recruits has fallen below 50 per cent for the

prime civil service positions, the commissioners say.

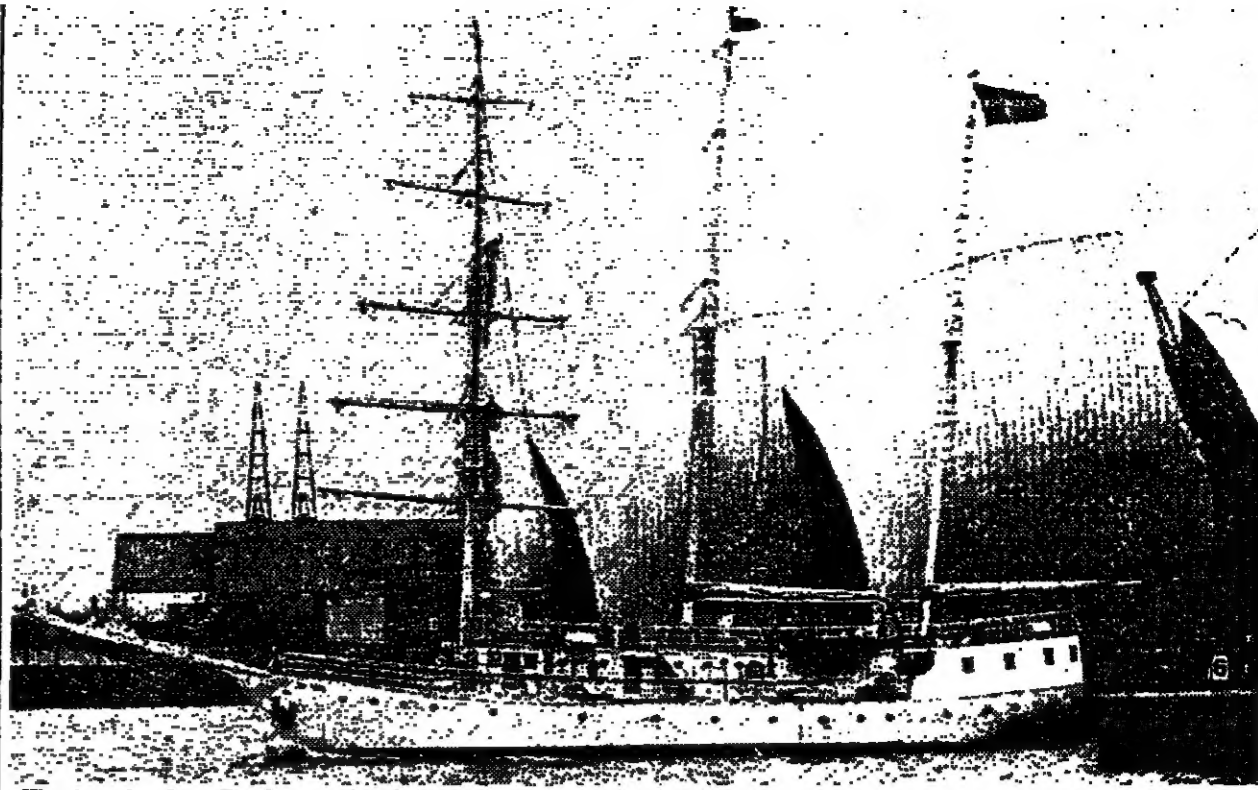
They attribute the rise in non-Oxbridge recruits to Civil Servants visiting universities and polytechnics to "encourage able students to apply for the (Civil Service) fast stream, irrespective of their education background, sex or degree subject."

The commissioners also referred at a press conference yesterday to the distortions caused by the Big Bang in the City. Huge salaries were creaming off some of the really outstanding graduates who would previously have gone on to become permanent secretaries.

Graduates in unrelated disciplines such as engineering were changing course and opting for the financial sector. Even surveyors and valuers were being snapped up to cope with the extra demand for City office space.

The commission's report also highlights efforts being made to increase the numbers of blacks and Asians entering the Civil Service.

Civil Service Commission Annual Report, 1986 (Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 1JB; free)



The Amorrina from Sweden passing the Thames barrier yesterday. She is to take part in a voyage re-enacting the one by the First Fleet to found Australia 200 years ago, with a fleet of other square-riggers (Photograph: John Manning).

Plea for murder trial move rejected

A request by defence counsel to have the murder trial of Ian Wood, a solicitor, moved from the city where he is a well known figure was refused by a High Court judge yesterday.

Mr Wood, aged 37, is charged with murdering Miss Danielle Lloyd, aged 37, and her daughter, Stefanie, aged three. He is also charged with attempting to murder her son, Christopher, aged six, at the home they all shared in Bradfield, South Yorkshire, and with stealing money from his own company. The trial is to start on July 30.

Mr Justice Jupp told the pre-trial review hearing at Sheffield Crown Court that a case should only be moved if an injustice was otherwise likely to occur.

Big rise in civil court cases against the police

By Stewart Tessler
Crime Reporter

Scotland Yard's senior commanders have been warned that people with complaints against the police are increasingly turning to civil courts and legal actions with damaging consequences for the police.

The warning was given in a report prepared last autumn

for Sir Kenneth Newman, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, and his senior advisers on policy for 1987.

The report was drawn from research and comments from officers across the Metropolitan Police and circulated to more than 70 police commanders.

Its disclosures which also show that substantiated claims of assault have more

than doubled in three years, come at a time when Scotland Yard is under fire from the Police Complaints Authority.

The authority's annual report complained last week of difficulties in dealing with the force, the largest in Britain, which accounts for a quarter of all allegations.

The report notes: "The low substantiation rate for com-

plaints (3 to 4 per cent) and the absence of compensation may be leading to complainants taking their grievances to civil courts."

"Apart from the financial costs of such actions the adverse publicity and the apparent impotence of the judiciary are leading to a highly damaging spiral effect."

The report also notes: "Complaints of assault, atti-

tude, neglect and irregularity in procedure form 87 per cent of the total, consistently."

In 1985 25 per cent of the completed investigations were of alleged assaults, of which 8 per cent were substantiated against 3 per cent in 1982.

"The number of civil actions has risen since 1973, when there were fewer than 50, to 126 last year. Of last year's cases, 62 were successful."

Sellafield image gets steam help

By Peter Davenport

One of the most famous symbols of the age of steam, the Flying Scotsman locomotive, is being used to help promote the image of the modern nuclear industry.

British Nuclear Fuels has chartered the engine to pull five special trains to take visitors to its reprocessing plant at Sellafield in Cumbria.

It is part of a strategy by the company to counter what it claims is ill-informed criticism of the safety record at the plant.

For the past year it has been running a publicity campaign, both on television and in newspapers, encouraging people to visit the site. Last year, according to the company, 65,000 people visited Sellafield; this year it expects 100,000 to take up the invitation.

British Nuclear Fuels said: "All we are doing is asking people to come and look for themselves before deciding about the nuclear industry."

The rail specials will run from London, Bristol, Nottingham and Coventry on five different dates in April, May and June. The Flying Scotsman, however, will only haul the train on the final 60-mile leg of the journey.

Visitors will tour the permanent exhibition centre at Sellafield before being driven around the site in a coach.

Telephone battle is under way

By Robert Matthews

A virtual monopoly of the national telephone system, 75 years old, ended yesterday with the launch of Mercury Communications' first domestic telephone service.

The service will compete directly with British Telecom. A six-week trial is being run in Nottingham and Derby, with customers being offered calls up to 15 per cent cheaper than British Telecom's service.

Connection to the network can be made via Telecom sockets, and customers will be able to buy Mercury phones, rather than rent them.

An authorization code costing £8.62 will still have to be renewed annually, however.

Mr Gordon Owen, managing director of Mercury, said that the quality of calls made on the system would be higher than British Telecom's because the £300 million network, installed by Cable and Wireless, Mercury's parent company, uses fibre optic and microwave links.

Mercury has supplied only business customers until now. It intends to launch a rival network to British Telecom's nationwide if the Midlands trial is successful.

Customers will be able to dial any destination in the world because of cable sharing agreements, Mr Owen said.

All local calls will still be made, however, using the Telecom network.

Job Training Scheme: 2

Liverpool's poor rate of success

The decline of Liverpool as a port and manufacturing centre has inflicted severe levels of unemployment on parts of the city. Ronald Faux, Employment Affairs Correspondent, reports that far from helping jobless youth towards a career, one study suggests that the Youth Training Scheme may at best help to take young people out of the unemployment queues only temporarily and at worst help to trap young people into permanent unemployment.

The most surprising thing about unemployment, says Mr Ken Roberts, reader in sociology at Liverpool University and a professional watcher of the city's unemployment queues, is that it is no longer in the least surprising.

People are insensitized to reports showing that 70 to 80 per cent of certain groups in the community do not have a job. The figures no longer have an impact.

Surveys carried out by the university on the city's plight are none the less alarming. They show that a third of all school leavers are completely unsuccessful at finding a job and their prospects grow worse, if that is possible, as they acquire a history of unemployment which makes them even less attractive to employers.

Children born into families where parents are unemployed are themselves far more likely to be jobless when they leave school. For young people the hardship is compounded by the fact that in Liverpool only 51 per cent of 17 to 18-year-olds live in a family with two parents.

The same research shows that more young people than average leave school aged 16 in Liverpool and crowd on to an already swollen labour market. Fewer than one in 10 gets a job immediately and 60 per cent join the Youth Training Scheme.

Nationally, some 60 per cent of young people get a job within three months of leaving the YTS, which means that the scheme works very well where it is least needed. In Liverpool there are schemes where hardly anyone gets a job after YTS.

Mr Roberts said: "Our researchers have shown that it achieves little more than a warehousing operation, a delay before they join the official unemployed, with the double handicap that they have to explain why they didn't get a job after an employer has had six months or so to judge them."

Awareness of this trap makes Liverpool young people very discerning about which firms offer the best training and where they are likely to be caught with no job at the end of the training.

"In Chelmsford, for example, young people have a reasonable chance of escaping that trap. In Liverpool many have none", Mr Roberts said. The answer, according to Mr Roberts and his colleagues, lies in changing the British education system away from its artificially high standards - too rigid and too biased away from mathematics and science.

He said: "We really should have a way of gaining qualifications that allows people who develop on different timescales to stand a better chance."

Concluded



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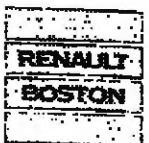
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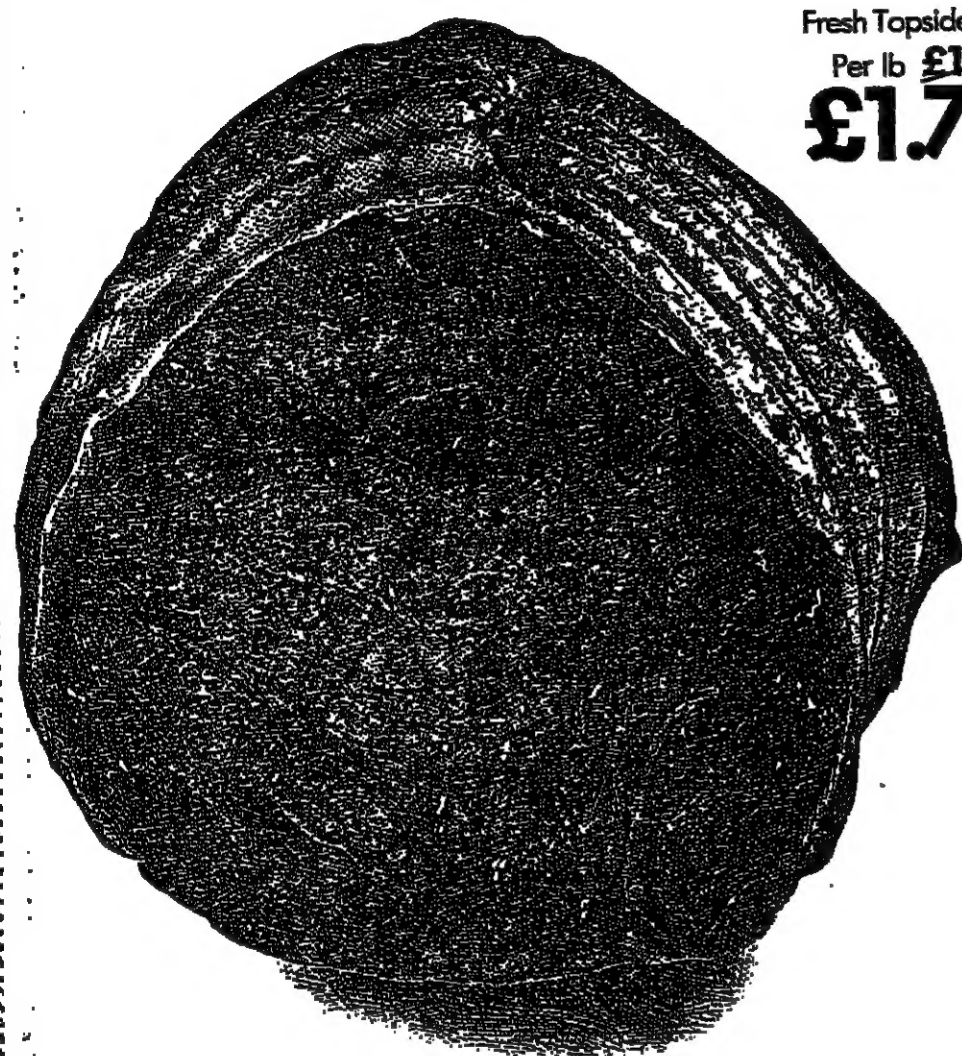
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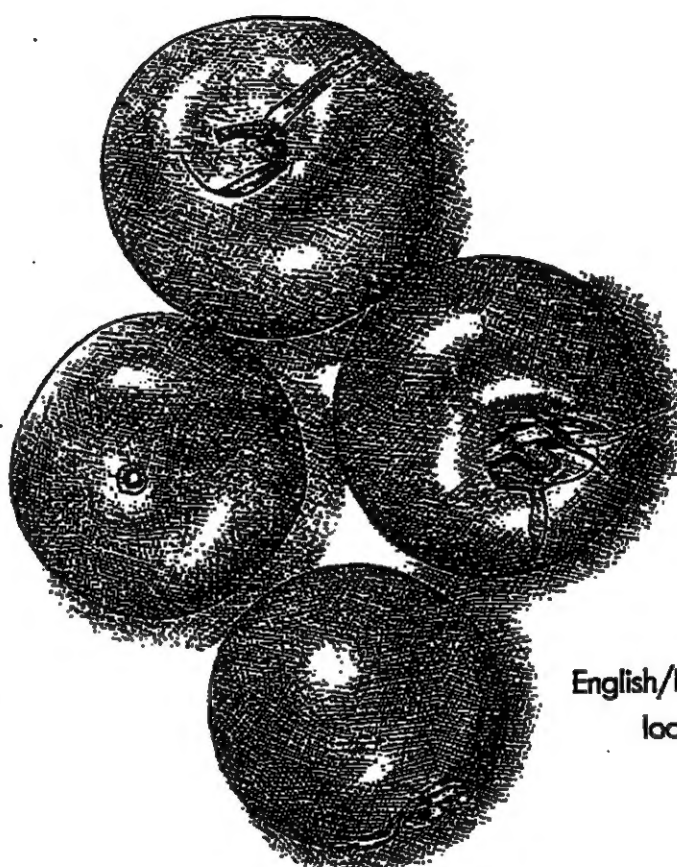
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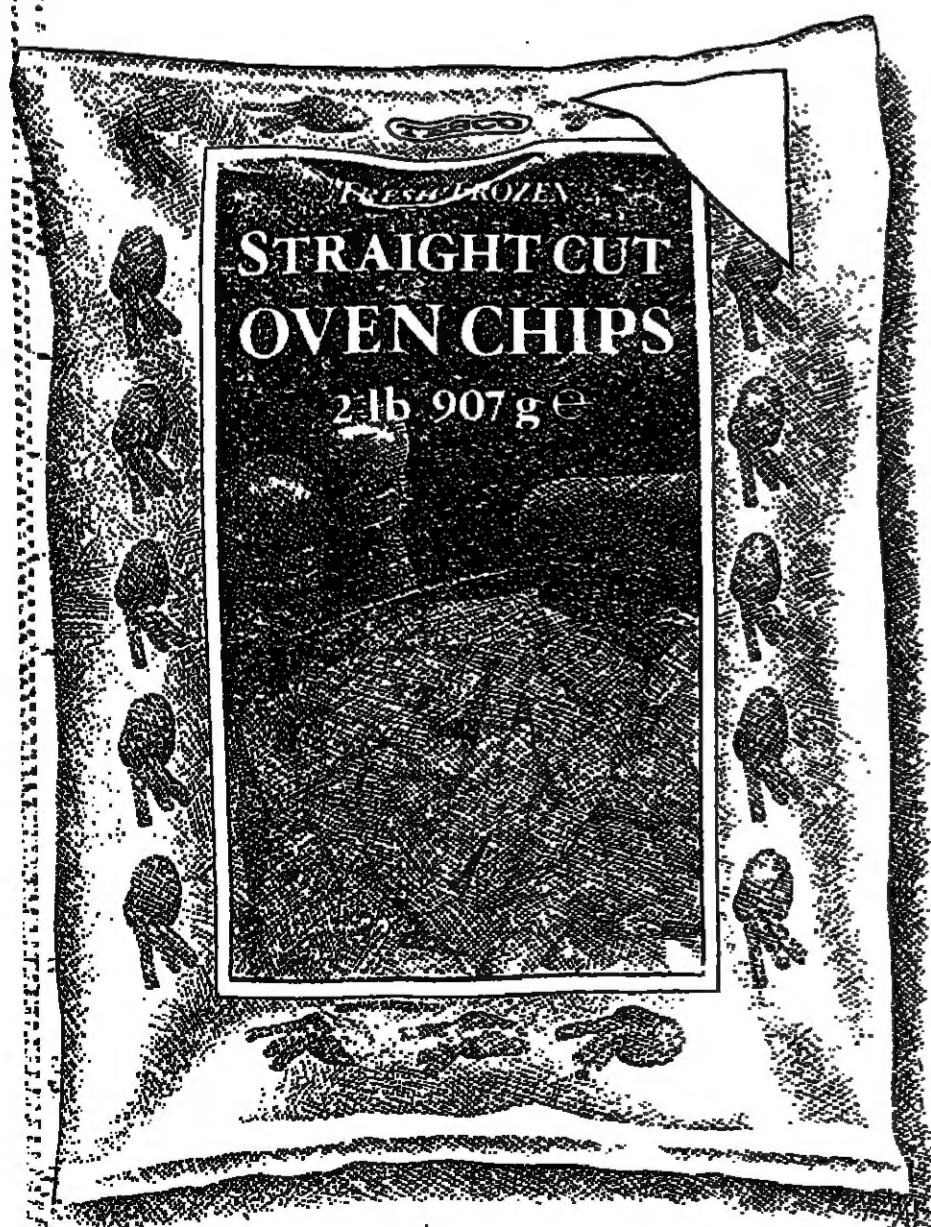
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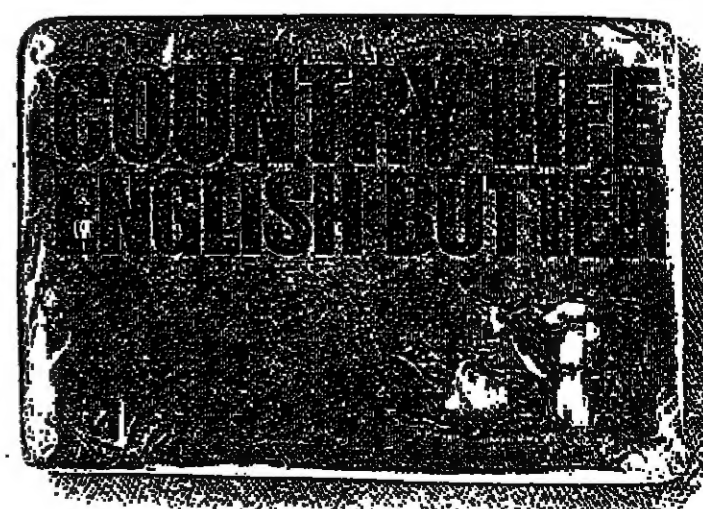
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COMMENTARY



Geoffrey Smith

Mr George Shultz has assured his European allies that he will not be entering negotiations in Moscow over Mr Gorbachev's proposal for the reduction of shorter-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

It will need to be done with some care because Mr Gorbachev is proving adept at trapping Western leaders with their own words. That is what he has done over the zero-zero proposal for intermediate-range missiles in Europe.

For years Western governments gave the impression that they needed to deploy cruise and Pershing 2 missiles in Western Europe only because there were Soviet SS 20s in the East. So at Reykjavik Mr Gorbachev took them at their word and said that he would agree to the withdrawal of all medium-range missiles from Europe — East and West.

Correcting the missile imbalance

This was not what a number of Western governments really wanted, but they evidently felt that it was too late for them to object without being accused of gross inconsistency. Rather than objecting outright, those who had doubts emphasized the conditions that would have to be satisfied first.

On her return from Moscow, Mrs Thatcher indicated that, far from fearing that such an arrangement would be too ambitious, she would prefer a global zero-zero option on intermediate-range weapons. But she also stated that "there should be no question of the de-nuclearization of Europe", and put particular emphasis on correcting the imbalance in shorter-range missiles.

Mr Gorbachev's proposal to negotiate their reduction and ultimate elimination might seem to be a precise response to her wishes. But in fact he seems to have something very different in mind.

She has been talking about giving the West a right to match the Soviet shorter-range systems, whereas he seems to be thinking about both sides getting rid of them altogether.

In one sense his approach is more logical. Mrs Thatcher appears to want the right to introduce more shorter-range missiles on the Western side, possibly by modifying Pershing 2s so as to become Pershing 15s. But this would not be acceptable to the West German Government, and if the Germans were unwilling to have more shorter-range missiles on their territory it is unlikely that other Nato countries would be either.

Impossible to implement

Nor would Western opinion in general be easily persuaded of the wisdom of getting rid of one category of weapon only to increase the stocks of another. Even if Mrs Thatcher's wish were granted, she would probably gain only a theoretical right which this would be politically impossible to implement in practice.

Yet the Gorbachev option of removing the imbalance in shorter-range missiles by eventually getting rid of them altogether would lead towards the de-nuclearization of Europe. His proposals would mean the elimination of both the medium and the shorter-range missiles. The order in which this was done would be of much less significance.

The temptation for Western governments now will be again to go along with Mr Gorbachev's proposal in principle, for fear of the propaganda consequences of resisting it, while setting conditions which, to their surprise, he is able apparently to meet. They might insist on an agreement for conventional forces, only to find that he had ideas in that field as well.

But, desirable though a conventional agreement would be, it would not justify the de-nuclearization of Europe. There is no sure way in which it can be prevented in any meaningful sense once the elimination of all medium-range missiles from Europe is accepted.

Nor can there be any sure way of preventing the elimination of medium-range missiles by setting apparently impossible conditions. Mr Gorbachev has shown by his latest move how he can seize the diplomatic initiative by accepting what was thought to be impossible.

750 in defiant prayer for detainees

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg

In open defiance of new security regulations introduced by the South African Government last Friday, 750 worshippers of all races, including the American Ambassador and other foreign diplomats, filled St George's Cathedral in Cape Town yesterday to pray for the release of people detained without trial.

Mr Edward Perkins, America's first black Ambassador to South Africa, issued a statement as he arrived for the service expressing "shock and outrage at the detention of large numbers of children". It was the first time Mr Perkins had gone public on so sensitive an issue since arriving last November.

On the face of it, the cathedral service, in which clergy of many denominations took part, was illegal, but the police did not intervene.

One of the new regulations, which aim to muzzle all public protests against detention without trial, prohibits the performance of "any act as a symbolic token of solidarity with or in honour of" detainees — seemingly a fair description of the service held yesterday.

Programmes handed to worshippers were headed "Service for Detainees". One prayer read: "We seek freedom for all detainees shut away alone and isolated, for those who suffer for justice's sake; and we pray for all oppressors that they be disarmed and overcome by the power of our people's unity and love."

Even before the service began, however, Mr Adrian Vlok, the Minister of Law and Order, created confusion by telling a leading Afrikaans newspaper, *Die Burger*, that prayers were not covered by the new regulations, and also

claiming that "no one is forbidden from working for the release of detainees".

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, head of the Anglican church in southern Africa, had a warning for the Government: "You are claiming that 'no one is forbidden from working for the release of detainees'."

The South African Defence Minister, General Magnus Malan, said yesterday that it was clear that Zimbabwe was "going down the same political and economic path" as other countries in black-ruled Africa (Michael Hornsby writes from Johannesburg).

Commenting on Harare's purchase of 12 Soviet MiG-29 fighters he said that Zimbabwe faced no internal or external threat to justify such a move.

Others have tried and bitten the dust," he told the Cape Town congregation.

The new curbs, he maintained, implied that it was no longer legal to campaign peacefully against the "immoral system of detention without trial". He pledged to continue protesting, particularly against the detention of children, at church services and other gatherings "whatever the consequences".

Dr Allan Boesak, the leader of the Sendingkerk, the branch of the Dutch Reformed Church which ministers to the mixed-race Coloured community, attributed the new regulations to "the madness of a government that long ago lost all hope of legitimacy, and can only live out its last days by compounding the evil it has begun".

The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Cape Town, Archbishop Stephen Naidoo, said the Church would continue to

West Bank protest at arrest of 100 Palestinians

Israelis open fire on students

From Ian Murray Jerusalem

A history student from Gaza was shot dead yesterday morning at Bir Zeit University as he demonstrated against the arrest of more than 100 Palestinians in the wake of the petrol bomb killing of an Israeli woman settler in the West Bank on Saturday.

Four other students were wounded by gunfire after security forces and, according to Palestinian sources, armed Israeli settlers, opened fire on the angry demonstration in the streets of the university town of Bir Zeit.

The body of the student, Moussa Hanafi, aged 24, was later smuggled away by fellow students who wanted to spare the family from being obliged by Israeli forces to hold a secret funeral, as is the normal practice.

According to witnesses, the security forces fired at the students after failing to break up their demonstration with tear gas. The Army insists it followed standard procedure of firing warning shots in the air before allowing soldiers to shoot at the legs of the demonstrators.

Palestinian sources claim that, after the shooting, ambulances were prevented from reaching the scene, and that when they did eventually arrive to pick up the wounded people were pulled out of them to have their photographs taken, before being allowed through for treatment in hospital.

The students set up barricades of stones and burning tyres when they learnt of the arrests overnight of Palestinians suspected of having links with banned organizations, such as the Palestine Liberation Organization. Nine, including Mr Faisal Hussein, head of the Arab Studies Society and an outspoken PLO supporter, were placed under administrative detention orders. A number who had been released nearly two years ago in a major exchange of prisoners for four Israeli prisoners of war were also arrested.



Israeli soldiers carrying a student into a Jerusalem hospital after he was wounded in a clash between Arab demonstrators and troops outside Bir Zeit University.

There has been unrest at the university since December when two students were shot dead by security forces. Over the past three weeks, there has been added tension because up to 3,000 Palestinian prisoners have been staging a hunger strike for political status and students have been demonstrating their support.

The hunger strike also seems to have inspired an increase in the sporadic attacks on Israeli vehicles in the territories by stone-throwers and petrol-bombers, including the one which killed Mrs Ofra Moses on Saturday.

Mr Yitzhak Rabin, who as Minister of Defence is in charge of administering the territories, immediately promised a clamp on Palestinians who might be inciting terror attacks.

With no immediate arrests of anyone suspected of direct involvement in the fatal petrol bombing, security forces appear to have rounded up anyone who might be suspected of inciting Palestinian resistance.

● MOSCOW: President Assad of Syria will visit the Soviet Union later this month, according to the official news agency Tass (Reuters reports).

Inquest into Moscow television interview

Self-criticism after Thatcher triumph

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

Mrs Margaret Thatcher's precedent-setting interview with Soviet television last month caused such widespread confusion among viewers unused to such a degree of *glasnost* that rumours subsequently swept the country that all three Soviet journalists who took part had been demoted on official orders.

This was revealed in a remarkably frank post-mortem on the 58-minute exchange written by one of the three interviewers, Mr Vladimir Simonov of the Novosti news agency, and published across half a page in the latest edition of *Moscow News*.

Mr Simonov said that the rumours had suggested that he had been excused as correspondent to the Kurile Islands, the most remote part of the Soviet Union, that the *Pravda* correspondent, Mr Tomas Kolesnichenko, had been made a cloakroom attendant, and that Mr Boris Kalyagin, the Soviet television commentator, had been barred from appearing again in front of camera.

The article, with a photograph of Mrs Thatcher during

the interview, the first recorded in such a fashion with a Western leader, amounted to a confession by Mr Simonov of the truth of the Western verdict that the Prime Minister had effectively trounced her Soviet questioners.

Since its broadcast on March 31, the interview has been a main talking point in Moscow and has provoked a flood of letters to the state television organization. Many are known to have complained bitterly about the conduct of the Soviet interviewers.

Mr Simonov revealed that one section of the complainants protested that the Soviet journalists had failed to cope effectively with Mrs Thatcher's arguments, notably her spirited defence of the virtues of nuclear deterrence.

"How to assess it (the interview), the reader might cry," the Novosti correspondent wrote. "Why, of course, it was a failure for you, if not a complete flop." He then added: "Another section of the viewers (many of them telephoned us) also think that the interview was a failure on our part, but for quite a different reason. They say that

some of us were too much aggressive, interrupted their colleagues, and so on."

Mr Simonov's article, itself highly unusual in the degree of self-criticism involved of some of the Soviet Union's most senior commentators, adopted a defensive tone which indicated to Western observers that the three Soviet participants had all been subjected to strong criticism for their handling of the interview, the idea for which was sanctioned personally by Mr Gorbachev.

"Both the journalists who took part in the interview and the TV viewers feel dissatisfied. I wonder if the blame lies with us. Maybe we ourselves are not yet prepared for the problem which faced us on the TV screen," he added.

"We feel somewhat lost when we are granted the right to decide for ourselves what it was that we had seen on television. We still need a mentor, a sort of professor with a pointer to point in his hand who would explain to us what is good and what is evil."

Mr Simonov reported that all three Soviet interviewers

"had the acute feeling that we were the first to tread a path hitherto unknown to Soviet journalists". He described Mrs Thatcher as "a veteran pro of TV shows" who was amazed that Soviet cameras did not have the red light to indicate which way he was being used.

The Novosti correspondent also said considerable controversy had been provoked by his question to the British leader about details of her daily routine and about how she combined the role of Prime Minister with that of being a wife and mother.

"A woman who watched the interview phoned me and scolded me on behalf of a group of Soviet working women" for permitting myself, she put it, "to rummage in the personal wardrobe of the Prime Minister," he said.

Mr Simonov, who said that the main lesson for the Soviet interviewers was that they should come to such occasions better prepared, added in reply to his female critic: "I think this is also a good example of our unpreparedness for openness. We regard human interest in a leader's life as well-nigh sacrilege."

pressed his admiration for the hundreds of thousands of people in the crowd who kept their composure. "There was a demonstration of great equilibrium, of great dignity." Asked what political effects the trip could have on Chile and Argentina, the Pope said: "It is not my intention or competence to become involved in technical or political solutions to countries' problems." He added: "I am generally very, very content with the visit."

WORLD SUMMARY

Britain delays EEC budget vote

Brussels — The EEC budget crisis cannot now be resolved until after the Easter break because Britain is withholding its agreement to research and development funding, (Richard Owen writes). The "framework programme" for research is considered vital by the Commission, which is asking for a minimum package of \$5 billion spread over five years to meet the challenge from Japan and America.

There is a glimmer of compromise in a suggestion by Belgium, which holds the EEC presidency, under which 15 per cent of the research budget would be set aside for projects after 1991. But Britain will not give its view on this until EEC ambassadors meet next Wednesday. Britain argues that research spending cannot go ahead until overspending in other areas is under control.

New hope for Hess

Munich (AP) — Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, is considering lifting the Kremlin veto on the Allied decision to free Rudolf Hess, right, the 92-year-old former deputy of Adolf Hitler, the German magazine *Der Spiegel* says. Quoting diplomatic sources in Moscow, it says that Mr Gorbachev may free the ailing Hess — who has been in Spandau jail in West Berlin for 40 years — as a humanitarian gesture.



Delphi to get plant

Athens — Greece and the Soviet Union have signed final agreements for a controversial alumina plant, seven miles from the ruins of the ancient sanctuary of Delphi in central Greece. (A Correspondent writes).

Greek government and banking officials said yesterday that ground-breaking for the \$187 million project, the first Soviet industrial venture in Greece, would begin next month.

Second poll call

Cairo (Reuters) — Egyptians voted yesterday in nine of the 18 seats in which candidates failed to win enough votes for election in the April 6 poll.

Opposition leaders have charged that they were cheated at the poll, in which President Mubarak's National Democratic Party won an overwhelming majority. Mr Ibrahim Shukri said that his socialist party had filed a case challenging the results and seeking their cancellation.

War toll worries Thais

Bangkok — The Thai Army, worried by mounting casualties, has sent in fresh troops to replace units trying for more than three months to drive Vietnamese soldiers from Thai territory near the Cambodian border. (Neil Kelly writes).

General Chavalit Yongchaiyudh, the Army chief, has ordered the regional commander to adopt new tactics to reduce casualties and to direct the battle personally.

Entry bar on lawyer

Johannesburg (AP) — The British lawyer, Miss Helena Cook, author of a US-sponsored human rights report banned in South Africa, spent the night at the city's Jan Smuts airport and was still there yesterday afternoon after immigration officials refused her entry.

The *Star*, a Johannesburg daily newspaper, said the Department of Home Affairs in Pretoria was expected to make a final ruling on Miss Cook's entry soon.

Dumped in space

Moscow (Reuters) — Soviet cosmonauts have jettisoned in space an engine of a research module unit, Tass reported yesterday.

The engine, which powered the module *Kvant* when it docked with the orbiting space station *Mir*, was detached after the cosmonauts, Commander Yuri Romanenko and Commander Aleksandr Laveikin, completed the docking operation. The link-up came after a four-hour space walk.

Shoot-out couple held

Berne (AP) — A Tunisian suspected of five killings was arrested with his Swiss girlfriend yesterday in a Lugano hotel after a shoot-out with police.

Abdelazi Bouajila and Ruth Schaffler, dubbed "Switzerland's most dangerous couple", were shot before they could be subdued but were not seriously hurt.

Bouajila escaped last Tuesday from Geneva's maximum security prison where he was awaiting trial on three counts of murder.

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Democratic front-runner formally joins nomination race

Hart faces long campaign with big cash crisis

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Standing in the chill shadows of Colorado's Rocky Mountains, former Senator Gary Hart yesterday announced formally that he would seek the Democratic presidential nomination. He is already as far ahead in the polls as a front-runner can reasonably get.

Mr Hart, aged 50 and born Gary Hartpence, has been campaigning for the nomination since being beaten for it last time by Mr Walter Mondale, who was crushed in the presidential polls of 1984 by President Reagan. This time the Democratic contender will have the advantage of not facing an incumbent President.

Mr Hart faces a field of undazzling unknowns whose politics are virtually identical to his own, with the sole exception of the Rev Jesse Jackson, the Baptist preacher whose spellbinding oratory captivated the National Convention in 1984.

He will be the only contender who is already a household name and has been around the track before, that is save for Mr Jackson, a no-hoper.

But the former senator's campaign is hampered at the

moment by debts of \$1.3 million (about £800,000) from last time. Struggles of creditors have angrily rejected offers of partial payments. Most big Democratic donors, still unsure about his substance and staying power, have postponed a decision on who to back, forcing him to lead the pack without the usual advantages of being front-runner.

His financial and organizational resources are woefully inadequate for the job ahead, a penalty for being regarded as an outsider, a loner. As front-runner, he will have to maintain a pace that most other candidates will not even attempt to match until early next year.

He and his wife, Lee, went home last December to their storybook stone-and-log cabin in the foothills of the Rockies to get things straight for 1988, including their family life. People say their marriage, which has seemingly been on the rocks several times, is better. Nowadays they remember to kiss in public and hold hands Reagan-style.

Recent surveys show Mr Hart has 35 to 45 per cent support in the Democratic electorate, while Mr Jackson



Senator Hart: the only Democratic presidential contender whose name is easily recognized, faces a field composed largely of undazzling unknowns.

has 10 to 15 per cent and none of the other announced contenders has more than 4 to 5 per cent.

Commentators have noted that, with the exception of Mr Hart and Mr Jackson, the Democratic team is demonstrably dull. Mr Hart has maintained his colourful reputation as a "new Democrat", a youthful-looking non-establishment man whose cowboy

hat and high-heeled boots are a declaration of rebellion and independence, or a laughable and pathetic affectation, depending on one's viewpoint.

Mr Mondale beat Mr Hart for the nomination with the help of three words: "Where's the beef?" But, as his managers say, a string of forthright policy speeches in recent years has done just that — put beef

and substance into his campaign.

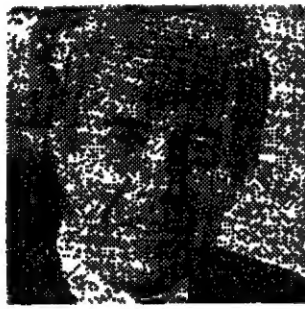
The other words that scare the Hart campaign are "enigmatic" and "cold". His image-builders are now trying to humanize him, to deal with the "character issue". His change of name still plagues him; so does earlier confusion over his real age, which he apparently tried to reduce.



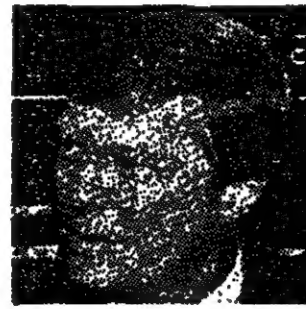
DU PONT



HAIG



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BRADLEY



SIMON

Candidates for the presidency

Those who have declared their intention to seek nomination and those who are expected to declare.

REPUBLICANS

Officially declared: Pierre du Pont, former Governor of Delaware;

General Alexander Haig, former Secretary of State and former NATO Supreme Commander in Europe;

Jack Kemp, a member of the House from New York. Expected to declare:

Vice-President George Bush;

Senator Robert Dole, Senate minority leader from Kansas;

Paul Laxalt, former Governor of Nevada.

DEMOCRATS

Officially declared:

Richard Gephardt, House representative, Missouri;

Bruce Babbitt, former Governor of Arizona;

Senator Paul Simon from Illinois;

Senator Albert Gore from Tennessee;

Gary Hart from Colorado, Democrat front-runner.

Expected to declare:

Rev Jesse Jackson; Senator Joseph Biden from Delaware;

Senator Bill Bradley from New Jersey (uncertain);

Senator Sam Nunn from Georgia (uncertain);

Michael Dukakis, Governor of California (uncertain);

Bill Clinton, Governor of Arkansas (uncertain).

Lange in slanging match over flights to American base

From Richard Long, Wellington

Mr David Lange, the New Zealand Prime Minister, and Mr Jim Bolger, the Opposition leader, yesterday staged a slanging match over the US base in New Zealand that services the American Antarctic programme.

Mr Lange said the American Operation Deep Freeze base at Christchurch was in jeopardy because of the wide publicity given to the American Starliner flights passing through the base.

He has given a blanket clearance for the flights to continue under his Government's anti-nuclear legislation. Mr Bolger has questioned how the Government can give such a clearance for military aircraft, a year in advance, when it insists on individual approvals for ships.

Mr Lange indicated yesterday that the blanket clearance for the American flights was necessary in order to retain the base in Christchurch. The operation brings about \$12.2 million (about £7.1 million) in annual income to the depressed South Island city. The operation is also essential for New Zealand's own extensive Antarctic programme.

New Zealand and American officials have expressed concern over the possible removal of the base. They say this would widen the rift between Wellington and Washington, which began when New Zealand banned the visit of a US warship in 1985, saying it could be carrying nuclear arms.

Mr Bolger has accused the Lange Government of hypocrisy — banning a warship to appease the party's left wing, while giving a blanket clearance to aircraft for the political expedient of retaining an important base.

But Mr Lange hit back,

saying Mr Bolger was trying to torpedo the base for political gain.

The Prime Minister said it was better not to talk about the details of the blanket clearance as this could endanger the base's future. The Tasmanian Government is keen to obtain the base.

Meanwhile, Mr Lange yesterday moved to explain a statement to Parliament last week in which he said "certain steps" were taken by his Government last year to satisfy the US over Deep Freeze.

The Prime Minister tripped badly during parliamentary question time when he denied that he had been warned by the US about the possibility of the base being removed. He also denied the existence of a telex from the New Zealand Embassy in Washington, sent in September last year, spelling out the American decision.

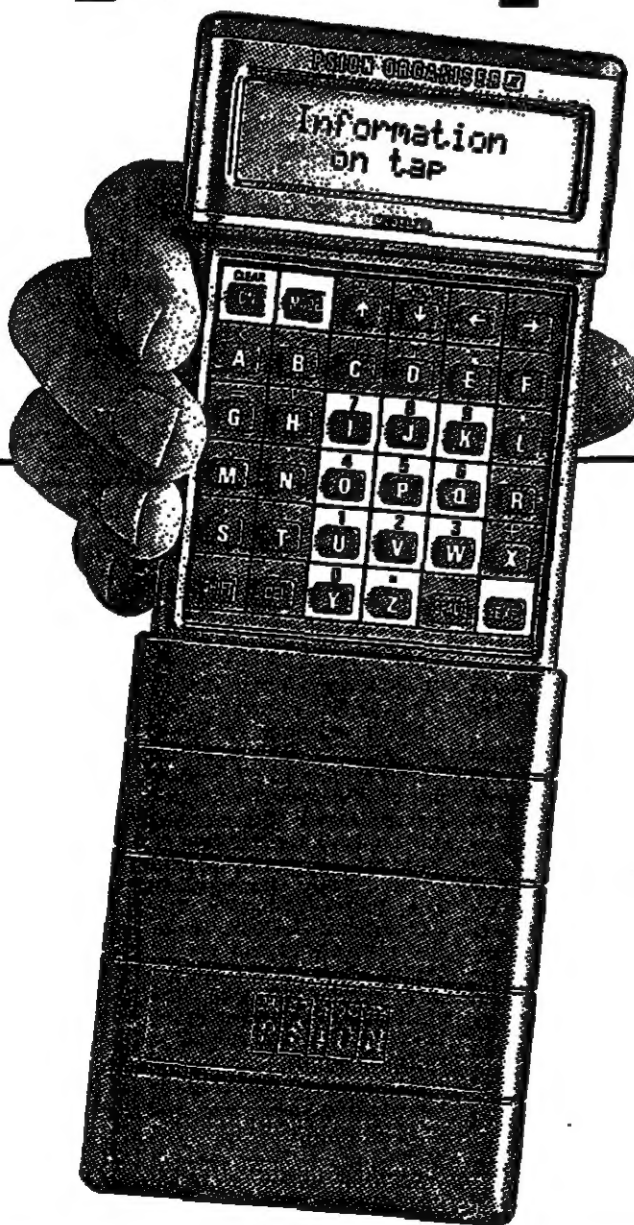
When Mr Bolger offered to release the telex, Mr Lange rounded upon him and accused him of abandoning his integrity and responsibility.

Pressed further by Mr Bolger, Mr Lange admitted: "I have been advised of the difficulties the US Government would experience in servicing Deep Freeze if certain steps were not taken. Because those steps were taken I have been specifically advised by the US Government ... that it has no intention of shifting the base."

Mr Lange explained this by saying that the "certain steps" involved sending Washington an early copy of his Government's anti-nuclear legislation. This implied that Washington had been satisfied with the blanket coverage provision for its Starliner flights and had agreed to keep the base in New Zealand.

Letters, page 15

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Letter from New York

Millions walking back to fattiness

Something is happening when *Time* devotes a page to potato crisps and *New York Magazine*, touchstone for the hip, spends two whole pages extolling muffins, as it has recently. A trend is clearly afoot. Few people seem ready to face up to it, but fat is back.

After a decade of self-denial, in pursuit of the ideal of lean and fit, America is indulging itself again, and of course has found a doctrine to justify it. The turning point came last year with the explosion of the walking craze.

Across the country, joggers shredded their shorts and threw themselves with glee into walking and "low-impact aerobics" when Dr Henry Solomon exposed the horrors of hard sweat with his book *The Exercise Myth*.

Rob Sweetgass then came along with his bestseller, *Fitness Walking*, and millions of Americans discovered they had been practicing a sport without even realizing it.

Dr Solomon and other gurus seem to have tapped a national yearning for the easy life and an escape from the tyranny of the Jane Fonda school of "no pain, no gain".

For the millions of hobbled runners, couch potatoes and baby-boomers with new intimations of mortality, this was sweet music. You could be healthy without having to work out like an athlete. From there it was only a short step to rediscovering the heavy-colored delights of the pizza parlour and the pizzeria.

New York has latched with gusto on to unfitness chic and seems to be leading the field. Central Park abounds with walkers — you can tell them from strollers because they have hi-tech shoes, or "walking systems" as the salesmen prefer to call them.

The *New York Times* is full of advertisements for exotic reclining chairs. Vegetarian restaurants are doing good business allowing seafood and chicken on to their menus, and one of Greenwich Village's best, Bitalo on Broadway, started offering meat last month.

Consumption of dessert, corn chips and sweets is booming. Home delivery of pizza is the fastest-growing

sector of the New York food business; croissant sales have doubled since the early 1980s, and the buttered, hot, blueberry muffin is taking over.

To help the yuppie come to terms with its appetite, *New York Magazine* explained muffins as a "reward-grazing food" that had undergone an "elite transformation".

"People want more comfort and reassurance in their lives. They're going for nurturing foods like popcorn, ice cream, banana bread," it said.

The beef industry has jumped on to the bandwagon from the dieters' ghetto with a national campaign that calls the meat "real food for real people". In television commercials and glossy ads, TV star Cybill Shepherd proclaims she does not trust people who do not like hamburgers.

According to the sociologists, self-indulgence is not the only factor behind a return to fuller silhouettes and female curves. The association of thinness with the emaciated look of AIDS victims has played a part. Wider women are now being seen as sexy. Take, for example, the stars of the recent films *Blue Velvet* and *Peggy Sue Got Married*.

According to Ms Faith Popcorn, an expert for New York trend researchers, Brain Reserve Inc, the average weight of women is rising. "The whole idea of being thin is not in anymore."

Many women are also taking to the new sport of "mall-walking" — wandering around indoor shopping centres — which is now big business. The *Urban Hiker*, billed as America's first walking store, recently opened on Amsterdam Avenue in Manhattan to cater to the new road warrior.

It features accessories such as briefcase-sized telescopic walking poles, complete outfits costing \$160 (£98) and all the literature of a full-blown American craze. "Meet your feet" is the first chapter leading in *The Walking Book*, a manual that, among other things, teaches you how to walk. "Defying gravity, we lean forward to overcome inertia..."

Charles Bremner

Army plot to oust Aquino is foiled

Manila — A plot by anti-government soldiers to hold foreign schoolchildren hostage and seize two Manila television stations, in order to force President Aquino from power, was quashed at the weekend, according to military officials (Keith Dalton reports).

About 400 soldiers belonging to an underground military fraternity had plotted to seize the government-owned Channel 4 television station, the nearby commercial station, Channel 7, and the International School, where children of foreign diplomats and businessmen are enrolled.

The plot was foiled by "a simple pre-emptive order restricting the suspects to their barracks" and troops were placed on full alert and vital services, communication facilities and radio and television stations secured by government troops.

Honecker snub

East Berlin (Reuters) — The East German leader, Herr Erich Honecker, has declined to attend West Berlin's celebrations of the city's 750th anniversary.

Train crash

Belgrade (AFP) — Five people were killed and 40 injured, 20 of them seriously, when a coach collided with a train about 19 miles from Zagreb.

Hiding place

Sydney (Reuters) — A 59-year-old mother has been arrested for taking drugs concealed in her brassiere to her son in Cessnock Jail.

Hen fight

Dhaka — A man was killed and 100 wounded as rival groups of industrial workers fought with knives and daggers for the ownership of a prized hen in Chinagong port.

Snakes alive

Bangkok (AFP) — Miss Duangporn Chichai, a 20-year-old Thai college student, saved herself from a rape attempt by pulling a 5 ft python from her bag.

Fall in US violent crime rate

From Mohsin Ali Washington

Crime figures in the United States continued at low levels last year, with a significant drop in fatal assaults.

The annual victimization study by the Justice Department's Bureau of Statistics, released on Sunday, showed that the estimated number of crimes in 1986 remained basically unchanged from 1985, when it reached its lowest level since the survey began in 1973.

Personal and household crimes fell 2 per cent — from 34.9 million in 1985 to an estimated 34.2 million last

year, according to the preliminary figures.

For the first time, the bureau said, at least half of all violent crimes were reported to police, evidence of a greater willingness to act against attackers.

The rate of assaults dropped to its lowest point in the survey's history with a decrease of almost 9 per cent — from 24 to 22 attacks per 1,000 people respectively.

The overall violent crime rate dropped 7 per cent, from 30 to 28 incidents per 1,000 people. The personal theft rate fell 3 per cent and the household crime rate dropped 2 per cent.

The report also showed that 37 per cent of all crimes and 50 per cent of violent crimes were reported to police last year, up 3 per cent and 5 per cent respectively from the previous year.

Of almost 15.5 million household crimes, 2.5 per million were not completed. And in the car theft category, 470,000 of an estimated 1.3 million attempts were unsuccessful.

In 1986 there were 153,640 reported rapes compared with 138,490 in 1985.

The report on the main crime categories was based on a survey of 101,000 people across the US.

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CONTINUED
ON PAGE 31

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South Korean Opposition vows to fight on for constitutional reforms

Chun blocks road to democracy

From David Watts, Tokyo

The South Korean Opposition reacted bitterly yesterday to President Chun Doo Hwan's freezing of all further debate on constitutional reform until after next year's Olympic Games.

The President swiftly capitalized on the disarray among Opposition politicians — evidenced by the split in the New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP) last week and the announcement of the launch of a new party — by a statement yesterday that killed any hope of further democratization.

The Opposition accused President Chun of reverting to a plan which he had intended carrying through all along. Mr Kim Dae Jung, one of the two leading Opposition politicians who broke away from the NKDP to form a more hardline party pressing for direct presidential elections, said: "This is clearly against democracy and will be severely criticized by people and history."

Mr Kim added: "How can it be that

a parliamentary system is acceptable, but a direct presidential system is unacceptable? We have repeatedly proposed a top leaders' dialogue and a selective referendum, but Mr Chun has rejected all of these."

"Despite today's statement on keeping our current constitution, our people's will for constitutional amendment with a direct presidential system shall never be frustrated, and we will fight endlessly for this cause."

Mr Kim, again under house arrest, called for a national, neutral Cabinet that would seek democratization and reconciliation.

With the President's statement, the way is now open for a hand-picked successor, widely expected to be Mr Roh Tae Woo, the former general who is chairman of the ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP), to take over in February.

While the Opposition, led by Mr Kim Young Sam and Mr Kim Dae

Jung, has been campaigning for direct presidential elections, the DJP had offered the possibility of a Cabinet system. The President has now decreed there will be no change in the present arrangements, despite calls from the United States that the South Korean Government should allow more democracy.

Mr Chun said in a national television address that to ensure accomplishment of the two great national tasks — a peaceful handover of power and the Seoul Olympics — he had frozen "counter-productive debate on constitutional change, which would only split public opinion and waste national energies."

And, in a clear warning to the Opposition, he said that he would deal resolutely with attempts "to create social chaos". In a direct gibe at the two Kims, President Chun said: "We must not entrust the future of our advancing nation to the hands of

superannuated politicians from a bygone era."

"I believe that political parties must strive urgently to accept and nurture a new generation of untainted and competent politicians who will be capable of leading the country in this transitional period."

One Western diplomat said the statement came as no surprise, since the President had always kept the status quo as an option, saying last April that, if the parties could agree on constitutional revision, he would accept it. The Opposition never attended the constitutional revision committee.

Continual in-fighting and rivalry within the Opposition — which some claim was government-sponsored — and a rigid approach by both sides has let slip the chance for further change. But the President's statement leaves the Opposition little room for manoeuvre.



A downcast Mr Nakasone at a news conference yesterday.

Nakasone blames VAT scheme for poll reverse

From Our Own Correspondent, Tokyo

Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) received a sharp rebuke from the public in gubernatorial and local assembly elections at the weekend.

Not only did it fail to win either of two prefectural governorships it had hoped to wrest from opposition hands, but it also lost 105 seats in 32 local assemblies across the

country, while the Japan Socialist Party, under its new chairman, Miss Takako Doi, won 71 new seats, and the Communists 33.

The results will probably force postponement of an unpopular tax revision plan and could threaten the political life of Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Prime Minister.

The election broke the Socialists' long-running losing streak since 1971 and brought the LDP to a low in local assemblies not seen since 1975 in the wake of the Lockheed bribery scandal. It will probably do equally badly in the second stage of the local elections on April 26.

The ruling party's losses clearly pointed to public rejection

of its plan to bring in a value-added tax (VAT). LDP candidates dissociated themselves from the tax issue.

Mr Nakasone conceded that the tax plan had had "something to do with the results. I would urge that we take our time and conduct deliberations in the Diet finance committee and thereby strive to form a national consensus."



A supporter of Mr Kim Dae Jung, the South Korean Opposition leader who is again under house arrest, shouting as he is hustled into a police van in Seoul yesterday.

Fiji's new leader will maintain US links

Suva (AP) — Dr Timoci Bavadra, the newly elected Prime Minister, took office yesterday and said he would ban visits by nuclear warships but seek to maintain strong ties with the US.

"We are committed to a nuclear-free Pacific," said Dr Bavadra, who defeated Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, the pro-Western Prime Minister, in Sunday's national elections.

Dr Bavadra, aged 52, a medical doctor and family planning expert, said he was not convinced of a growing or threatening Soviet military presence in the South Pacific, but said Fiji would not invite Moscow to establish an embassy.

"We are very sensitive to the feeling of the people and the feeling we share around here is they don't want to see the Russians. Open opposition has been expressed on the presence of the Soviets here."

Dr Bavadra heads the multi-racial Fiji Labour Party, which formed an alliance with the Indian-dominated National Federation Party.

The coalition defeated Ratu Mara's Alliance Party in an eight-day election that ended on Saturday. A vote count on Sunday gave Dr Bavadra's coalition 28 seats in the 52-seat Parliament, while Ratu Mara's Alliance Party took 24 seats.

Indian political crisis

Corruption uproar engulfs Gandhi

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, yesterday faced the worst political crisis of his career, following the resignation of Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh, who was widely regarded as one of the most honest men in the Cabinet.

Mr Gandhi's enemies in Parliament and the press are making the most of it.

The Opposition brought a halt to the affairs of the upper house of Parliament, the Rajya Sabha or States Assembly yesterday, indicating their intention to make the most mileage possible out of the Government's discomfort.

The Vice-President, Mr R. Venkataraman, who presides in the house, had twice to adjourn proceedings. No business was transacted at all, and eventually the sitting was put off until tomorrow because today is the national spring holiday.

Newspapers have been scathing in their criticism. While *The Times of India*, which has been hostile to Mr Gandhi, took a generally sympathetic view, it points out that "Mr Singh has come to symbolize three virtues the Indian people value — honesty, renunciation and meekness", and it urged that "Mr Gandhi must not hold any portfolio which can attract to him personally the charge of corruption".

But the *Indian Express*, whose editor was at school with Mr Gandhi and which has until recently supported him strongly, accused him directly of corruption.

In a front-page editorial the paper, whose owner was subject to a police raid recently and whose financial adviser was arrested, declared harshly: "No Prime Minister has confirmed the worst allegations and suspicions about his probity as Mr Rajiv Gandhi has..."

After recalling the government propagandist line that Mr V. P. Singh had instituted an inquiry into defence contracts payable as an embarrassment to the Prime Minister, the paper says that it could not have embarrassed him unless he "or someone close to him" was taking kickbacks.

"Everyone was reluctant to believe the inference which flowed from the propaganda," the editorial says.

"The decision of the Prime Minister to force Mr V. P. Singh out removes all doubt.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, or someone dear to him — dead or living — has received the kickback. He has forced Mr V. P. Singh out, not to enforce 'discipline' or 'respect for the proper way of doing things', but to shield himself."

The MPs belonging to Mr Gandhi's party, Congress (I), are presenting a more or less solid front — they stand "like a rock" behind the Prime Minister, said Mr H. K. L. Bhatnagar, the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs.

But observers detected a good deal of unhappiness in the ranks, and expect a crucial test of their support to come

Mr Sanil Dutt, the film star MP for that part of Bombay which contains the largest film industry in the world, yesterday completed a 78-day peace pilgrimage on foot from his constituency to the Golden Temple of Amritsar (Michael Hamlyn writes).

He had been warned that he would be at risk from terrorists sheltering in the Sikh sanctuary, but a strong force of security men was present. Mr Dutt told the high priests, who have been installed by separatist militants controlling the temple, that he had come to apologize on behalf of all men who had committed mistakes in the state.

after the elections in the state of Haryana which must be held before June 23.

If Mr Gandhi should lose the election, his advantage to the ruling party — that no one else can win elections like he can — will have disappeared. At that moment they may possibly turn to the one man with a reputation for "honesty, renunciation and meekness", and ask Mr V. P. Singh to lead them.

The Tribune from Chandigarh, which is the joint capital of Haryana and Punjab, also draws attention to the Haryana elections and calls for the Congress Party to acquire much-needed internal cohesion and a proper chain of command.

"The Prime Minister must change his style of functioning," the paper says.

"You can inherit charm, you can inherit power; however, political acumen and experience are not bequeathed by genes but acquired by constant practice and application."

Macao pact hailed as guarantee of stability

From Robert Grieves, Hong Kong

China and Portugal signed an agreement yesterday in Peking's Great Hall of the People that will return Macao, Portugal's Far Eastern colony, to Chinese sovereignty on December 20 1999.

The accord, which took nine months to negotiate, was signed by Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Prime Minister and acting General Secretary of the Communist Party, and by Professor Anibal Cavaco Silva, Portugal's Prime Minister.

Mr Zhao said at the signing ceremony that the two countries had "accomplished an undertaking of historical significance" which "laid a solid foundation for long-term stability and development in Macao" and was proof of the wisdom of China's "one country, two systems" policy.

Mr Deng Xiaoping, China's paramount leader, said yesterday that "the more developed China becomes the more impossible it will be" to change its policy of opening to the outside world. Mr Deng also said that China will continue its reforms.

In a speech following the signing, Professor Cavaco Silva pledged: "Portugal will do everything in order to maintain the stability and to promote the economic development of the territory and of its population."

Under the terms of the accord, details of which were announced on March 26, Macao, like Hong Kong, will be able to keep its capitalist system for 50 years after it reverts to Chinese sovereignty in 1999.

Macao was first occupied by Portuguese traders in 1557 and was ceded to Portugal by China in 1887.

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SPECTRUM

Frel: a fraud for art's sake

● Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent of *The Times*, and Thomas Hoving, editor of New York's *Connoisseur* magazine, tracked down Jiri Frel, the Getty Museum curator at the centre of a \$14 million fraud scandal, in Rome last week. After a five-hour vigil in front of his apartment, they saw the white-haired 63-year-old emerge into the Roman traffic and approached him. He talked to them for several hours with great circumspection, indiscriminately mixing fact with fantasy. Geraldine Norman reports on the strange encounter.

I took Thomas Hoving and I six months to piece together the story of the donations swindle run out of the Getty Museum in California, the richest museum in the world, by Dr Jiri Frel, the former curator of antiquities. The museum had let him quietly leave the country in 1984 after they had investigated his activities, without reporting them to the authorities, let alone the Press.

The US Internal Revenue Service has only just begun to investigate and the full picture of the tax fraud has yet to emerge. The outline, first reported in *The Times* in February, runs as follows.

A former professor at Prague University, Frel joined the Getty as curator of antiquities in 1973 and left "on sabbatical" in April 1984. He resigned from the staff only in December 1986 - when he knew we were on his tracks. During his 11 years at the Getty he had worked - both according to his own account and that of others - with single-minded determination to build a great collection of antiquities.

This required both major acquisitions, which the trustees were happy to support, and the accumulation of a large body of fragmentary or minor pieces to document the range of antique craftsmanship for research purposes. Finding no support from the trustees for the bulk purchase of damaged items, Frel got them donated instead.

Under American tax law the value of museum gifts could be deducted from a donor's income before tax was calculated. As long as the valuation more than doubled his purchase price, a donor in the 60 per cent tax bracket made a profit on the deal. For example, a sculpture purchased for \$10,000 and donated with a valuation of \$20,000 saved a donor in the 60 per cent bracket \$12,000 in tax, or \$2,000 more than he had paid for the piece in the first place.

Frel arranged valuations around three or four times market value and recruited many donors. In some cases he also supplied the goods to donate; crates of antiquities were shipped to him from Swiss dealers who, it appears,

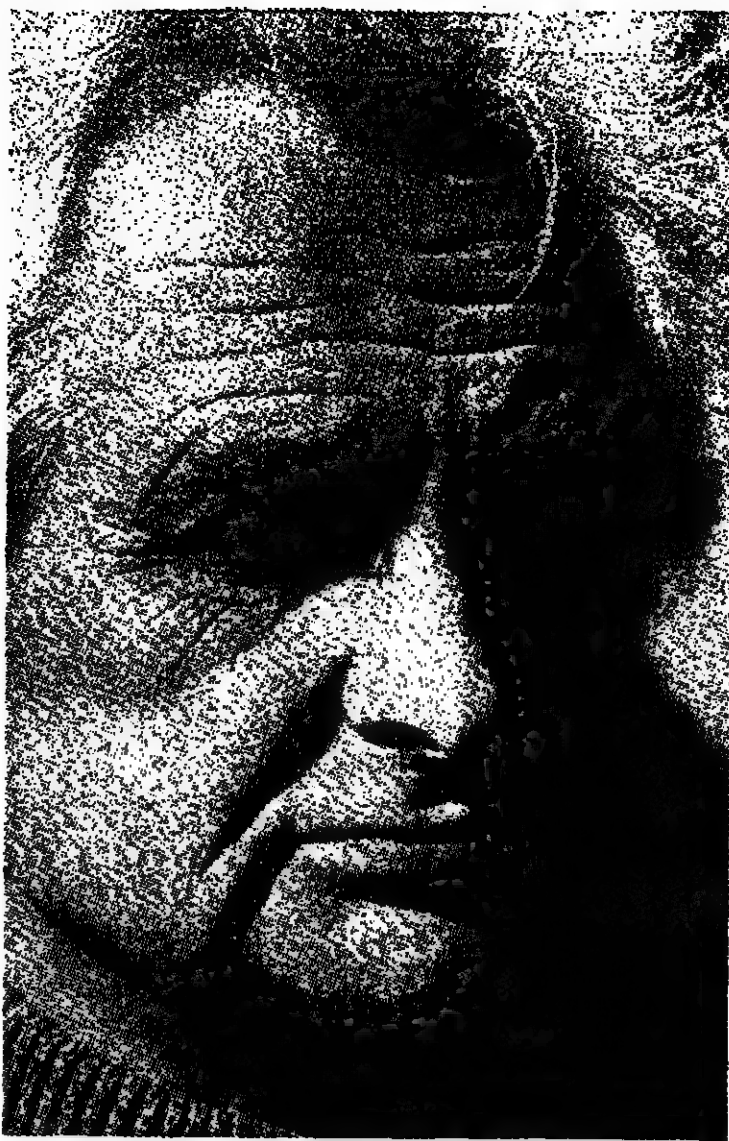
thought that they were donating to the museum themselves. The value of donations to the antiquities department reported by the museum to the IRS during Frel's tenure was \$14.4 million. More than 100 donors were involved, and more than 6,000 individual pieces.

In addition to the donations affair, a question mark hangs over Frel's involvement in the purchase for a reputed \$12 million of three Greek marble sculptures which many scholars consider to be fakes. The back history which he supplied for a \$7 million marble kouros, or life-size marble statue of a young man, appears to be fabricated. He brought a \$2.5 million archaic relief into America in his personal baggage, reputedly to avoid the name of the vendor becoming explicitly known to the museum. The origin of a \$2.5 million head of a warrior attributed to Skopas is also doubtful: its export licence from France described it as a Roman copy worth 60,000 French francs.

While admitting that Frel was relieved of his curatorial duties as a result of "serious violations" of museum regulations, the Getty president, Harold Williams, says that the museum's 1984 inquiry found "no evidence of personal financial gain on his part".

Frel was in Rome last week to negotiate the purchase for 400 million lire, or roughly £200,000, of an apartment in the historic centre of the city. He already has a one room pied-à-terre near the Pantheon, which is where we found him. Last year he purchased an apartment in Le Pecq, a fashionable suburb of Paris; one of the other flats in the building was sold recently for roughly £150,000 and Frel presumably paid a similar price.

He pleads poverty, saying that the money to pay for these apartments came from "others" and that the car he drives - a Saab Turbo Commander - is only lent to him. He left Czechoslovakia in 1969 penniless and earned around \$50,000 a year at the Getty. The two wives he left in Czechoslovakia



Four wives, three homes: but where does Dr Jiri Frel's money come from? Top right, how *The Times* broke the story exactly two months ago

and the two wives he left in America, together with various children, are also presumably a drain on his resources. His present style of life suggests that some of his activities must have earned him large sums of money.

Frel told us that he currently works as a consultant to a rich American collector. "He thinks that the dealers pay me and the dealers think that he does - so I get nothing," he said. When we suggested having lunch together, he laughingly pointed out the cheap pizzeria which he frequents.

The contradictions seem characteristic of a man in whose mind fact and fiction appear to have blurred to a point where he can no longer distinguish the difference. The last few weeks since *The Times* revealed the donations affair have clearly told on him. He is tired. He has taken up smoking again after 20 years, he says. He talked to us over lunch and dinner but could not eat. He repeated

stories which we knew to be untrue, apparently too tired to concoct a new version to fit the new facts.

He talks emotionally and incessantly in broken English. One can well believe his American friends who say that he never understood half of what he was saying. Still handsome under his mop of white hair, especially when his grey-blue eyes light up in a smile, he sees scholarship and a connoisseur's sensitivity to art as a complete justification of his life. There is no hint of regret over his law-breaking.

He is surprised that his deputy curator, Arthur Houghton, saw fit to report the donations affair. "I explained it to him myself," he says. He was grooming Houghton to take over the department - "an American had to succeed me". Clearly Houghton's honest attitude still seems to him inexplicable. Here perhaps lies the heart of the Frel affair. A Czechoslovakian refugee finds himself in capitalist

Huge tax fraud uncovered at Getty museum

The *Connoisseur* magazine and Thomas Hoving. In the biggest financial scandal in the history of the art world, the Getty Museum in California has uncovered a massive tax fraud involving the curator Jiri Frel. The museum's director, Paul Getty Jr, has ordered an investigation into the matter. The fraud involved the donation of thousands of works of art to the museum, which were then sold at a profit. The total value of the fraud is estimated to be over \$14 million.

America, and in California, where capitalism runs to extremes. He despises the society in which he finds himself but seeks to manipulate the system - as was his habit in Czechoslovakia.

Frel was the son of an elementary school teacher in a small Czechoslovakian village. The family changed their name to Frel to cover their Jewish origin. His first lessons in how to manipulate the system in his favour were learnt under the Nazi occupation.

He has written a short story to explain this period to his son. The hero, with a brilliant academic record, finds first love reading Anatole France and Zola in bed with a beautiful young Jewess, against a background of harsh manual labour and the gathering of berries and mushrooms in the woods for survival. He asked my advice on getting the richly romantic vignette published.

His own brilliant academic record earned him a scholarship to study in Paris in 1946. He fell in love with

France. His professor, Jacques Charbonneau, became a long-standing protector and friend. After his return to Czechoslovakia in 1948 he escaped frequently to Paris, staying with Charbonneau and travelling in Europe with surprising freedom.

He had a visiting fellowship at Princeton in 1968-69 when the Russians invaded Czechoslovakia. He claims that he received a 16-page questionnaire from the new regime requiring him to name 10 colleagues whom he considered his enemies. It was this, he says, that

made him decide to stay in America. His second wife, who had two children by a former marriage, returned to Czechoslovakia.

His third wife, Suzy, was already pregnant when he begged the Metropolitan Museum in New York to find him a job so that he could stay in America. In 1973 he was offered the job at the Getty Museum, and broke his contract with the Metropolitan in order to go to California. There he married again, a bright young classics student whom he met in the museum. She was left behind when he left the museum for Paris in 1984, though he took Suzy's son, Sacha, now 15, to Europe with him.

All he wants now is peace to study, he says. He is writing a book about Greek kouroi in which he intends to publish his researches on the origin of the \$7 million statue which he induced the Getty Museum to acquire.

He means that he is researching the stylistic characteristics of the kouroi in order to tie down the geographic location of the workshop where it was made. The more immediate puzzle is where he himself found it. He continues to claim that he first saw the statue in a private collection in Geneva; he provided the museum with documentary "proof" that it came from Dr Jean Lauffenburger of Geneva when he (Frel) first produced it back in 1983. None of Lauffenburger's friends and relations that we have contacted ever saw it and the story looks like a fabrication. Last week Frel slid out of this by producing an ingenious new twist: he had been secretly shown the kouroi in the house of Lauffenburger's mistress.

Just good mates

After a year on the factory floor, do Rolls-Royce's robots seem more human?

"Strange little fellows, keep biffing you behind the knees if you don't watch where you're walking," says an engineer at the Rolls-Royce turbine jet factory in Nightingale Road, Derby. A smart red robot rumbles by on its errand. It has the look of a fairground bumper car carrying a heavy disc of burnished metal from one part of the works to another. Controlled by computer, it moves in a purposeful way, drawing energy mysteriously from the factory floor.

After a year working alongside them their human mates hardly notice they are there. No one seems familiar to them. Engineers know a lump of metal when they see one, however it behaves.

In this factory, where great limousines were once hand-assembled, the Advanced Integrated Manufacturing System (AIMS) is at the heart of an effort to beat competition, particularly from America. A group of shop stewards and managers went to watch the American aircraft engineers at work and what they saw was sobering. Instead of one machine to three operators, the British model, they saw 20 machines being operated by one woman.

AIMS has changed all that. From the moment a machine forging arrives to the moment it leaves as a finished component it passes through a range of machining, cleaning, treatment and quality control processes with little help from a human hand.

This has helped to reduce the lead time for machining and welding compressor assemblies from 26 weeks to six. Productivity has improved 40 per cent and the savings in the first year alone have paid back the £4.5m cost of installing AIMS.

Shop stewards convenor Tony McCandless says that no one has given the robots a name. Tireless Tom might fit. Red Robo? Perhaps not. Tireless, strike-free, tea-breakless, the robots simply get on with the job.

Ronald Faux

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Politics and the uncivil servants

There are no holds barred in the Civil Service election slanging match

Colonel Gaddafi may have an uncanny ability to turn up as the bogeyman in many conversations, but even the most fertile imagination would be hard pushed to link the Middle East tyrant with a British civil servant. But then nothing and nobody is sacred in Civil and Public Services Association elections.

The most outrageous allegations are thrown from one end of the political spectrum to the other with the same ease as most people exchange pleasantries. "Macreadie is funded by Gaddafi," runs one. "The right-wing National Moderate Group is in the pocket of the CIA," runs another. There is no evidence to prove either.

The animosity between the different factions in the largest Civil Service union centres on one man: John Macreadie - whose name is synonymous with the Militant tendency. Last July he was elected general secretary of the CPSA, only to be stripped of his post after allegations of ballot rigging. He lost the re-run to John Ellis.

During the next few weeks John Macreadie will be back in the limelight. He is standing for the influential post of deputy general secretary. There are five candidates but only two have a real chance of winning. The election, which gets under way this week, is likely to be no less controversial.

The campaign got off with a typically glorious row when the former candidate for the ruling right-wing National Moderate Group, Barry Reamsbottom, announced his withdrawal at the eleventh hour. Who was to enter centre stage but Mr Terry Ainsworth, the acting deputy general secretary who had earlier said he was not going to run for the post.

Unassuming, yet competent, independent while determined, Ainsworth is the ideal choice to take on Macreadie. Untainted with the right-wing image of the National Moderate Group, he

has reasonable hopes of taking some votes from the left as well as relying on the large pool of support that was instrumental in ensuring that the right wing kept control of the CPSA executive.

"Terry is the most experienced candidate standing," said Marion Chambers, CPSA President. "His negotiating skills are well known and universally admired. He's the right person for the job and everyone knows it."

But that was before the union became embroiled in the present spate of industrial action. Tempers are running high as thousands of civil servants shut down local DHSS and local unemployment offices.

Sheila Pevery, branch secretary of the Liverpool DHSS office, is no militant. But, disillusioned and bitter at being at the sharp end of the what she calls the appalling conditions facing civil servants, Sheila says she will be voting for John Macreadie because of his determination to fight for the low paid.

She says a majority of her 1,300 members in Liverpool, many of whom are forced to bring up families on £80 per week and claim family income supplement, are not over-impressed with the art of negotiation, when all it has delivered is a 4.25 per cent (plus bonuses) pay rise - denounced by more than half as derisory and worth striking over.

Politics apart, the election will come down to one thing: who is best placed to fight for better pay and better conditions? Roland Rudd

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1232

ACROSS
1 Frolic (6)
5 Guinness ad bird (6)
8 Australian flightless bird (3)
9 Film theatre (6)
10 Water gull (6)
11 Fine hair (4)
12 Awful (8)
14 White Rhine wine (13)
17 Uncertain (8)
19 Breach (4)
21 Slay (6)
23 Slow movement (6)
24 Tall lettuce (3)
25 Folk (6)
26 Stockings seller (6)

DOWN
2 Farewell (5)
3 Siam (7)
4 Tanned hide (7)
5 Teacher (3)
6 Flying saucer (1,1,1,1)
7 Cherubic (7)
8 Mica (9)
15 Place apart (7)
16 Let loose (7)
18 Compel (5)
20 Composure (5)
22 Bathe (3)

SOLUTIONS TO NO 1231
ACROSS: 1 Primus 5 Give 8 Tippy 9 Ramekin 11 Sedative 13 Snap 15 Bumpiness 18 Edgy 19 Reproach 22 Trekled 23 Enslui 24 Dead 25 Yearly
DOWN: 2 Round 3 May 4 Shrove Tuesday 5 Game 6 Vikings 7 Sash 10 NUPE 12 Tomb 14 Sour 15 Bugbear 16 Teat 17 Chain 20 Annual 21 Skid 23 Era

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FASHION

Yankee dollar dandies

American designers of casual wear are set to woo the relaxed European weekenders. Suzy Menkes reports

Last week as Calvin Klein, Ralph Lauren and Donna Karan were unveiling their fashion shows in New York, a slice of the all-American dream was being served up in Oxford Street.

Without a whisper of publicity, The Gap — the American casual-wear fashion chain with 700 shops in the United States — is colonizing Britain. Their West End store, just a few doors away from our home-grown fashion success, Next, opened five days ahead of schedule. Last Tuesday, the colourful weekend clothes and lively children's wear went on sale in Richmond, Surrey (nearby Croydon follows at Easter). And The Gap have now signed a lease to make their flagship store on the site of the former Laura Ashley shop in Regent Street. "We are the first American company in this market to come to the United Kingdom," says Alan Reed, managing director of The Gap in Europe. "If The Gap fails, everyone will fail." Its sister company, Banana Republic, based on safari and khaki clothes, is also planning a launch in Britain.

Hot on their heels next October will be Esprit, the classicist of the American sportswear companies. Esprit is making its flagship the former Joseph shop in Sloane Street and has taken on board Joseph Etedgui himself, who is a partner in the London business and will edit the Esprit collection to present it to the British customer. "I think of Esprit as the spirit of the weekend," Joseph says. "They are relaxed clothes. Perhaps a little like Benetton, when they did lambswool sweaters in 12 colours."

At the end of the month Ralph Lauren, the fashion pioneer of Big Country style, will open a women's shop, set in its own area on the second floor of Harvey Nichols. The store has already installed a man's shop on the ground floor — in the gentleman's-club image of the label.

"It's been an amazing success," says Harvey Nichols merchandise executive Alex Smith, who cites the sports tops at £50 as the fastest sellers. "It gives people a designer name at prices well

above the high street, but not anywhere near the Montana, Byblos and Missoni merchandise."

Casual wear has always been at the heart of American fashion, although the fashion capital demands and produces more sophisticated clothes. "That New York fashion is strictly for New York. It's not for Europe," says Joseph, who has just closed down his own shop on Columbus Avenue, the stronghold of American design, and retreated to the European-influenced Madison Avenue.

Five years ago America's big designers were brought to Britain, but were mostly squeezed out by the strength of the dollar. This new American revolution is more likely to work because the companies themselves are colonizing, rather than being brought in by retailers searching for new designer names. But the House of Fraser now have a range of middle-market American designs, often manufactured outside the US to keep prices reasonable.

Of these, Perry Ellis is the best-known label. The clothes are long and languid — floral cotton sweaters with cool linen jackets and skirts. These designs, with those of Andrea Jovine and Elie Tahari, are selling quickly from American departments within the stores. Ralph Lauren has been working steadily at the European market and has already established image-making stores in London and Paris. Esprit has a European centre in West Germany and has also set up in Holland. The Gap and Banana Republic are starting with Britain, but they are both vertical operations (manufacturing and retailing themselves) and can thus keep control of prices.

The US designers currently succeeding in Europe are wholesaling less expensive ranges, while keeping the upper end of their collections for their own stores here and at home.

There is also a feeling that elaborate designer merchandise may have peaked as a retail fashion story. "I have never felt so anti high



Above: Blue and white striped cotton cardigan, £22. Stonewashed denim mini-skirt, £25. Navy blue 10-button sleeveless vest, £18. All from The Gap, 315-317 Oxford Street, W1 and 35-38 George Street, Richmond, Surrey

Right: Khaki cotton drill bush jacket, £37. Floral blue, red and yellow sarong skirt, £35. Wide leather belt, £186. All from Ralph Lauren, 143 New Bond Street, W1; and a selection at Harvey Nichols from the end of this month

Far Right: Floral patterned cotton sweater, £108. White linen kick pleat skirt, £138. Both by Perry Ellis, from House of Fraser, Kensington High Street, W8, Kensington, Manchester and Frasers, Glasgow. Belt by Ralph Lauren, as before. Hair by JOEL O'SULLIVAN for Schumi at Fortnum and Mason. Make-up by ARIANNE POOLE. Photographs by JOHN SWANNELL

fashion," Joseph says. "There is a market for rich people who want clothes for one season. But, with designer clothes reduced by half in the sales, most people would rather invest in one wonderful white shirt or a Chanel suit as a nice little classic."

Blue jeans, sports clothes, camp shirts and sweatshirts are the American fashion classics. The Gap's glossy brochures are all about holidays, open spaces and having fun. Alan Reed stresses that unlike Next he is not selling business suits or formal clothes. "We make the clothes you love to wear," he says. "Not the ones you have to wear."



PEOPLE

Works of art by the yard

The ghosts of Jean Cocteau, Graham Sutherland and Henry Moore peopled the high-fashion party given last Thursday in honour of Ziska Ascher.

Ascher, the fabric designer who brushed over the boundaries between art and fashion, was the guest of honour at a dinner at the Royal College of Art, whose guests included textile professor Bernard Nevill, and fashion designer Jean Muir.

Tonight, Sir Roy Strong hosts another party for the opening of an exhibition of Ascher's prints and fashion fabrics at the Victoria & Albert Museum.

Liberty (who have had connections with Ascher for 30 years) are offering for sale to the public, at £112, the headscarves by Cocteau, Henry Moore and Barbara Hepworth — on which Ziska Ascher and his wife Lida built the company's reputation.

The headscarf, symbol of suburbia, was given new life by the squares which open the V & A exhibit. Ziska and Lida Ascher approached the leading painters of the post-war period and asked them for textile designs. The result of this extraordinary marriage of art and fashion includes Graham Sutherland's angry splutter of black, screen-printed on to rayon in 1946, and Felix Topolski's merry London street scene of 1944. These were done as Britain's clothing industry was struggling to recover from the Blitz.

In the exhibition's display of fashion and fabrics is a photograph of the young Princess Elizabeth, wearing a striking sunshine-yellow Ascher print which expresses the spirit of the new Elizabethan age. Ascher flowered in the 1950s, when all the great French houses, from Schiaparelli to Dior used the lyrical flower prints. The most famous of these — yards of rose print gathered into a full-skirted New Look dress, is not only on show in a succulent photograph by Cecil Beaton in 1950, but also



Hat, screen-printed silk by Ziska Ascher, 1962

on sale now at Liberty for modern dress-makers.

The splendidly researched archive photographs tell the story of the clothes and show how two different designers — Lanvin Castillo and Fabiani — used the same 1958 poppy print in different ways. One is a bubble dress, looking like so many of the 1950s fashions, back in the forefront of fashion. A Cella Birtwell print on a 1960s paper dress is one of the small number of garments on display. Bringing this fascinating exhibition up to date, there is also a full-sleeved blouse made of white cotton printed with bold brushstrokes of black, designed by Jan Van Velden for the Princess of Wales.

Ascher: Fabric — Art — Fashion is at the 20th century Exhibition Gallery, Victoria and Albert Museum, London SW7, from tomorrow to June 14. There is a lavishly illustrated catalogue by Valerie Mendes and Frances Hinchcliffe to accompany the exhibition (£18.95).

Go west for spring suits

West country weekenders will be pleased to hear that those "restorers of casual elegance", Sabre, will be adding another branch to their ever-expanding tree on Easter Saturday. Set against the backdrop of Regency Bath, the new shop will be opening at 8-10 Old Bond Street and its two floors

of hi-tech rails and polished pine floors will cater for both men and women. The first collection on sale in the shop includes the usual jewel coloured preppy sweaters and blazers as well as loose linens and elegant lightweight suits for those warmer spring days and longer, lighter country evenings.

With the current Japanese imbalance of trade it seemed particularly bad timing for

cosmetic company Kanebo to launch their exclusive bio-skin care range at Hamiltons Gallery last week. Amid tiny bonsai trees and company executives, guests were invited to sit on the floor and eat exquisite Japanese food out of lacquered lunch boxes. Those worried about Wall Street will be horrified to hear that the Japanese, Kanebo especially, are as good at getting rid of crows' feet as they are at manufacturing micro-chips.

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Charles of the Ritz

THE TIMES DIARY

Hermon to quit?

With delivery of the final instalment of the Stalker-Sampson report to Sir John Hermon, the Northern Ireland chief constable, there is growing speculation in the province that he will retire before beginning a ninth arduous year in the job next January. Colleagues believe that Sir John has already decided to leave but is staying on so that his observations on the inquiry into the RUC's alleged shoot-to-kill policy accompany each instalment sent to Northern Ireland's director of public prosecutions, Sir John, aged 57, the longest-serving chief constable since the RUC was reorganized in 1969, has shown signs of wearying of the job. Asked recently whether he would still be there next year, he replied to laughter: "That's a question none of us can answer."

Phantom fighter

Labour-controlled Manchester City Council, which is trying to raise £200 million to get round ratecapping and has plans to mortgage the city abattoir, is now inviting offers for the official car — a blue Rolls-Royce Phantom VI. Such is the rarity value of this custom-built mayoral car, first registered in 1975, the manufacturer was unable to put a price on it. It has been in drydock since councillors abolished the position of lord mayor 18 months ago. The Tory leader, Joyce Hill, questions the good-housekeeping reasons given by Labour councillors for the sale and maintains they are trying to destroy all Manchester's civic traditions. Her regret at the change of style is tempered, however, "The new incumbents at the town hall are not fit to use such a car." In keeping with the new pomp-free order in the town hall, the councillor appointed Chair now has the use of a mere Rover. The colour? Red.

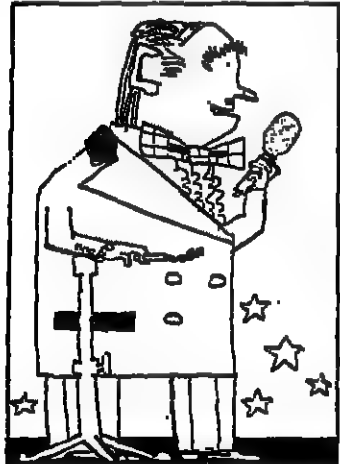
Class apart

At least Michael Meacher, Opposition spokesman on health and social services, won't have to call on the benefits system when his son David completes a statistics diploma this summer. For the 23-year-old, a double blue in golf and squash who won the Oxbridge golfing societies' President's Putter competition last month, has landed a job with a firm of management consultants, the City's latest and lucrative high-growth sector. And how does father feel about David joining the bosses? "Slightly surprised," was the reply.

High VAT

Farmers planning to earn extra money over the Easter weekend by turning a field into a car park for the local fête or gymkhana would be advised to learn from the experience of a farmer near Henley-on-Thames. Farmers Weekly reports that shortly after regatta week the VAT inspector called to claim his share of the car-parking charge. When the farmer said he had no idea how many cars had been in the field, the inspector declared that he had counted them — and dropped an aerial photograph on to the desk. The farmer's response? "Well, that just shows how many people get in for free."

BARRY FANTONI



"Heard the one about the Englishman, the Scot and the man with an Irish passport?"

High flyer

On a recent visit to Washington I looked up the south-west tower of the cathedral and was amazed to see a modern version of a medieval garb: a smartly dressed man with large nose and flowing hair holding a briefcase. A cathedral spokesman told me that all the characters, grotesque or otherwise, adorning the 80-year-old yet still unfinished cathedral represent everyday life in the USA.

Hitched

The junior environment minister and barrister, Christopher Chope, who is using the Easter recess to marry his House of Commons secretary, Christo Hutchinson, is vulnerable to teasing by colleagues that she nearly cost him his job. For it was Christo who accompanied the MP on his away-from-it-all holiday in Corsica last summer. Apparently unaware that Chope was in line for promotion in the September government reshuffle, the couple left no address or telephone number: the Prime Minister was forced to wait a week to announce the appointment. Miss Hutchinson has already taken the hint: she is resigning after the election to run a business with a friend.

PHS

How to rule out election fever

by Patrick Cosgrave

In 1963, shortly after he became leader of the Conservative Party and prime minister, Sir Alec Douglas-Home announced that he would not seek a dissolution of parliament and a general election before October 1964.

Although speaking in his own, and reasonable, interest he had identified a major problem in British politics — the assumed right of a prime minister to require a dissolution. Since his time, government in Britain has been bedevilled by recurring bouts of election fever. The cure for this ill is the institution by statute of a fixed term for each parliament.

In 1964, Harold Wilson won an election with a very narrow majority. The things he wanted to do he could not do. He returned to the country in 1966 and gained a good majority. Already, though, his plans had been vitiated, in part by his own personality but also by exhaustion and by speculation about when he would again appeal to the electorate.

In 1970, Edward Heath triumphed over Wilson. From 1972 onwards he was plagued by a dispute between the government, and the trade-union movement, in particular with the miners. In 1972 he reversed the economic policies on which he had been elected, but the merits or demerits of his about-turn were subsumed throughout 1973 by consideration of when he would call an election.

Party advantage was constantly argued by factions within the

Conservative ranks; the national interest was lost sight of. Only Enoch Powell had the courage to state that the matters at issue were of greater importance than who came first in the charm league.

As Mr Powell put it during the 1970 campaign: "A great part of the electorate... are just being invited to decide if they prefer the country and the economy, which will be much the same anyway, to be presided over by a man with a pipe or a man with a boat."

In 1987 nobody, I fancy, would claim that Mrs Thatcher simply presides; she has made enormous differences to the running of the country. Likewise, Neil Kinnock, were he to succeed her, would make enormous changes in the opposite direction. However, judgements about their policies are being subordinated to the question of when Mrs Thatcher will seek a dissolution, and how she is being influenced by the possibility of electoral victory.

Guessing the result of general elections is great fun. But is there not at least a case to be made, in the national interest, for curtailing the period of speculation?

If Mrs Thatcher had no choice in the matter of date, would not her negotiating position internationally be stronger? If the date was known, would not Mr Kinnock, and Dr Owen and Mr Steel, be less tempted to resort to

exigency and games-playing than they — again, very understandably — are now?

If an incoming prime minister could know that he, or she, did not — for five years or, as I would prefer, seven — have to consider government partly or largely in the light of the next election, would there not be greater security in public life in terms of forward and assured planning?

There are two main objections to the idea of fixed terms. The first is that, in the event of a hung parliament or one in which the governing party had only a narrow majority, the inability of a prime minister to resort to the polls would ensure a time of huckstering of the kind that disfigures Italian politics. The second is that fixed terms would further reduce the royal prerogative.

The points are closely related because the British constitution ordains, in essence, that the monarch is sovereign, *in parliament*. We like to separate our idea of the dignity of the reigning monarch from the practicalities of daily political life. But the essence of the constitution as it operates is that the monarch works in reasonable harmony with the prime minister of the day.

So it could be argued that if the monarch was to become involved in huckstering, both the dignity of

the crown and the effectiveness of government would be reduced. However, I find am not dismayed by the prospect of a system in which the House of Windsor might have a more crucial role in politics — than at present.

A government or two might be weak, but that would be a reflection of the national decision. Each party leader would, at each general election, address the electorate in the full and certain knowledge, shared by the voters, that there could not be another early appeal. The people would make their decision. Business could proceed.

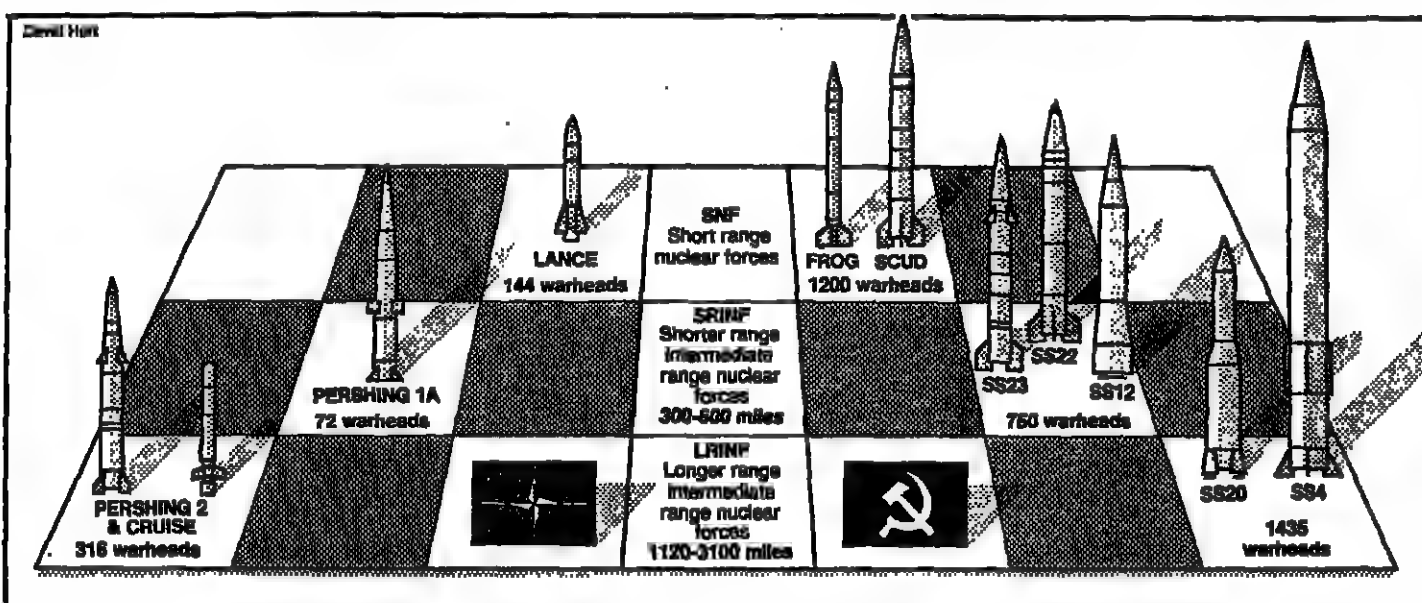
There is one respect in which I would wish to preserve the present system. In my fixed-term parliament the government could of course be brought down and another assembled. The prime minister would not, however, have the option of a dissolution unless the Commons had passed a vote of no confidence in the government's general conduct of affairs, as happened to James Callaghan in 1979.

Thus, if the opposition defeated the government on a point of principle, but one which was unpopular with the electorate, the prime minister could not call and run. Only a vote of no confidence would ensure a general election before the fixed date.

Fixed-term parliaments would bring stability to policy-making and clear the political air of feverish electioneering.

Andrew McEwen assesses the grounds for optimism in Moscow

The pieces Shultz has to play



On the Moscow chessboard: the ground-based nuclear weapons deployed on each side in Europe

This afternoon's meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev and George Shultz brings the prospects for nuclear arms reductions back to where they should have been last October. Short of an unexpected setback, the US Secretary of State will hand the Soviet leader Mr Reagan's letter and discuss what sort of agreement the two could sign in Washington later this year.

If Reykjavik had been, as Reagan intended, a preparatory meeting instead of a full-blown summit, it need not have produced the muddle that has taken six months to unravel. Both sides now have a far more realistic idea of what they are ready to agree; both have been nudged by Mrs Thatcher to settle for the achievable rather than the utopian.

The Prime Minister has been the leading European force persuading Reagan to change the positions he struck at Reykjavik. His offer to eliminate all ballistic missiles in 10 years is now said by his administration to be a dead letter, even if technically it still lives on the table at the Geneva comprehensive arms talks.

In his talks with the Soviet leader, Shultz will put an agreement on medium-range missiles (INF) at the top of his list. This priority was agreed by Mrs Thatcher and Reagan at Camp David in November. Her persistent theme that this would represent a vast breakthrough, not a minimalist approach, has been tacitly accepted.

Since Reykjavik the Atlantic alliance has refined its ideas on the preconditions for an INF agreement. Gorbachev has moved a long way towards meeting those demands and a draft treaty has been largely agreed at Geneva.

Even before Reykjavik he had conceded Europe's first priority condition — that the British and French deterrents should not be taken into account. When Reagan first proposed the so-called zero-sum INF solution in 1981 it was assumed that Moscow would never agree unless Trident and the force de frappe were thrown into the smelter.

Gorbachev's second key concession, on February 28, was to drop his demand that any INF agreement should be part of a package deal, involving the sacrifice of Reagan's Star Wars project. That justified Shultz's trip to Moscow but still left sticking-points. The West had three remaining preconditions, of which only one appeared acceptable to Gorbachev. All three addressed NATO's concern that a deal to remove INF missiles would leave the Warsaw Pact superiority in shorter-range and short-range weapons.

At first sight, the proposed deal looked a good one for the West. The Soviet Union would destroy 1,435 SS4 and SS20 warheads in exchange for only 316 Pershing 2 and ground-launched cruise warheads. (Warheads are counted rather than missiles because the SS-20s have three each).

These so-called LRINF weapons, with ranges between 1,120 and 3,100 miles, pose the next greatest threat to each side after strategic weapons.

Such an agreement would leave the Warsaw Pact with 750 warheads in the so-called SRINF category, meaning shorter-range, against only 72 American warheads. The Soviet missiles are SS-12, 22 and 23, and the American ones Pershing 1-A, with ranges between 300 and 600 miles.

The Warsaw Pact would also retain large superiority in so-called SNF, or short-range, missiles, with ranges of up to 300 miles. Their 1,200 Scud and Frog missiles compare with 144 American Lance missiles, which have a range of 75 miles.

NATO demanded safeguards: any agreement on LRINF must include constraints on SRINF and SNF. The first constraint would be a freeze of Soviet weapons at existing numbers, the second a right for the Americans to match those numbers. Thirdly, there must be agreement to hold talks on reducing the ceiling numbers of these weapons.

Before Mrs Thatcher's visit, Moscow had partially accepted one of these points — the freeze. But Gorbachev wanted both sides' missiles frozen, not just his own. Only Gorbachev knows whether his visit to Moscow helped him to decide to accept a second condition ahead of Shultz's arrival. It is probably no coincidence that on Friday he proposed immediate talks on the SRINF and SNF missiles. In effect, he adopted the West's third demand, but gave it a twist of his own by saying that these talks should be independent of the LRINF discussions.

The one outstanding condition involves an important issue of principle. The real question is not whether the Americans should be allowed to build more missiles to match Soviet numbers, but the ultimate intentions of the two sides. Gorbachev says he wants elimination of these weapons. Europe, led by Mrs Thatcher, wants parity at reduced levels. Her argument is that elimination would increase Europe's vulnerability to Soviet chemical and conventional weapons.

Two implicit admissions in Gorbachev's speech have done much to improve trust — first the fact that the Warsaw Pact has larger conventional forces in Europe than NATO, and secondly that it has chemical weapons. Neither point had been conceded before. There has been growing optimism since Friday that the gap is now bridgeable.

Since the American decision to break out of the never-failed SALT 2 treaty last year, there has been no effective agreement covering weapons of attack. (The 1972 ABM treaty deals with essentially defensive anti-missile systems.) Although an important first step, an INF agreement would not change the philosophy of mutually assured destruction. There will be cost savings, but "overkill" can be removed from the vocabulary only by cutting strategic weapons.

The Moscow meeting is expected to consider, as lower priorities than INF, whether progress can also now be made on strategic, conventional and chemical weapons. Without compromising the British and French deterrents or altering the east-west balance it would be possible to cut the American and Soviet strategic arsenals (intercontinental missiles and bombers) by 50 per cent.

On the difficult issue of Star Wars, Reagan's Reykjavik offer to give 10 years notice before breaking out of the ABM treaty is said to have been changed. Shultz, apparently conceding defeat to Casper Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, is expected to insist on Washington's right to interpret the treaty more loosely and to give only five years notice of withdrawal.

The schools that teach a lesson on spending

The proposal of Kenneth Baker, the Education Secretary, to put all but the smallest schools in charge of their own financial affairs within four years of a Conservative return to power had its birth seven years ago when John Brackenbury, a Cambridgeshire headmaster, was gazing from his study window at workmen pouring asphalt in the playground.

At that moment he was wondering how to get an extra ancillary worker from the council. It suddenly occurred to him that if he could decide how money should be spent on his school, he would cancel the asphalt and hire the needed worker without delay.

The following year, when Mr Brackenbury had become a Liberal member of Cambridgeshire council, he joined with a Conservative councillor, Robert James, in proposing a pilot project in financial self-management for schools. So successful has this been in six secondary schools and one primary that it is being extended to the entire county.

Some of the Cambridgeshire heads became instant evangelists of Mr Baker's proposal at the Secondary Heads Association

conference last weekend. Broadly speaking the idea is popular, although some heads fear that public odium over "cuts" may be transferred from the local authorities to their own shoulders.

One head, Peter Downey, has saved up to £30,000 a year at Hinchbrook School, Huntingdon, by juggling staff levels against seasonal needs and by economizing on fuel, cleaners' wages and water rates (he discovered that a fish-pond and swimming-pool were leaking, sending the water bill soaring). All the saved cash is devoted directly to the school.

As most of the schools' annual budgets are tied up in salaries, rates and other commitments, only 1 or 2 per cent is open to such creative savings; but even such a small proportion makes a huge difference in books, equipment and computers.

Peter Downey's school even has its own catering firm, run by professionals. Besides providing school meals, it offers catering for banquets, wedding receptions, trade fairs and conferences. Sixth-formers can earn money as waiters and waitresses. Mr Downey ex-

pects to be making a clear profit on catering in three years.

"My general impression is that I spend less time on financial management than people expect," he says. "I still feel in touch with the pupils: I teach four periods a week and participate in music and sport. Budget management allows me to make good things happen much more rapidly and effectively." Whether smaller or less dynamic schools could cope so well is debatable.

Buckinghamshire, Cheshire, Norfolk and Solihull are working on similar lines. If Mr Baker's sweeping proposals take effect — and he hinted on Friday that there would be legislation forcing local authorities to comply — these Conservative and Alliance authorities may find they have prepared the way for a loss of power.

Local education authorities would continue, said Mr Baker, to raise resources and distribute them to schools. They would run back-up systems such as educational psychology, transport and meals. They would check on standards, and pay the teachers (though which ones, and how many, would be up to the heads

and governors) and would stand by in case a school could not cope.

"Do not interpret this as the dismantling of the local education authorities," said Mr Baker. "But do not underestimate the shove I am giving them."

The withering away of the local authorities' responsibilities would occur in tandem with a major piece of centralization: the new national curriculum. There might eventually be so little for the authorities to do that the government could justify closing them down and funding schools directly from Whitehall.

Phillip Merridale, Hampshire's education chairman and a leading Conservative critic of the government, says: "If all the authorities are to do is to send in a couple of plumpers and keep the toilet-roll supply going, there will be little reason to keep them at all."

The abiding fear is that centralization of the education system is being disguised as an exercise in devolution. The result, teachers fear, will be an unwieldy bureaucracy less sensitive to local needs.

Sarah Thompson

T. E. Utley

Let Botha get on with reform

The South African government, with the overwhelming support of the white population, is resolved to resist the imposition of a unitary democratic state based on one-man-one-vote. It believes, rightly, that to accept such a settlement would amount to political suicide.

It will have at its disposal, for the foreseeable future, the physical means necessary to avoid yielding to this form of constitutional radicalism. If it succumbs to any sort of coup (which at least for 10 years or so is unlikely) it will be a right-wing not a left-wing coup.

So far, then, my prejudices have been confirmed; but, in one signal respect, they have been destroyed. The case for constitutional reform in South Africa rests not on morality or the need to accommodate arrangements to the prejudices of the civilized world, but on sheer fact. By the end of the century, the population of South Africa will be 45 million of which 35 million will be blacks. The economy of South Africa is now virtually stagnant. By the year 2000 there will be huge unemployment unless current economic trends can be radically reversed.

The drift from the homelands to the towns will accelerate, because the homelands cannot sustain such a population and because whatever economic future South Africa may have will depend on the availability of trained black labour. It is inconceivable that this migrant population can be contained in black townships and deprived of all political rights save those of self-government at local level. Apartheid is collapsing not primarily as a result of moral pressure from outside but because of its own internal contradictions.

These truths are at least as well perceived by intelligent Afrikaners as they are by enlightened people in the western world — hence President Botha's attempts at reform and hence also the revolt of the Stellenbosch Afrikaner academics against his failure to do more. Reform is essential, but what kind of reform?

Innumerable constitutional models are now being advanced — confederation, federation, consociation. Confederation seems to the outsider to be a rearranged apartheid designed to reintroduce apartheid by the back door. The recipe is to carve the place up into a large number of autonomous states so constructed as to ensure that some are controlled by blacks, some by whites, some by Indians and some by Coloureds. If blacks find themselves working in white states they will be regarded as immigrant labour and therefore not clearly entitled to political representation there. This is a chimera.

Federation is a different matter: there would be a number of states in which an attempt would be made to secure a balanced representation of distinct ethnic interests. The model for this is the programme of the KwaZulu/Natal Indaba which has proposed a

complex system for the government of that region in which a balanced representation will be given to blacks, Indians and whites. This, of course, involves racial discrimination, though the fact is concealed by the use of euphemisms such as "group-interests".

The guts of the matter, however, are these: however important decentralization may be for the future of South Africa, the place must have a central government; someone must control the army and the police, and have a final say in the distribution of resources. There must be a central legislature in which blacks as well as Coloureds and Indians are represented, and some sort of balance must be struck between their respective constitutional powers. The notion of race must be preserved in the government of South Africa. The alternative, as my liberal friend put it, is "one-man-one-vote for one minute: after which there will be a one-party state, probably controlled by marxist blacks, and therefore both tyrannical and disastrously incompetent".

So everybody ends by saying that there must be negotiation; but negotiation with whom? There would now be much to be said for removing the ban on the African National Congress, summoning it to the conference table and engaging in a long parley. Let us be clear, however, the object of that exercise should be to demonstrate that the ANC, marxist-dominated and committed wholly to the principle of one-man-one-vote in a unitary state, does not entirely represent South African blacks. By the same token, it would be sensible to release Nelson Mandela: he would not of course be a free agent when released and it would probably be necessary to re-arrest him when he continued to advocate violence. That also would make a point. It would be part of a process designed to isolate black radicals and prove that they were not the authentic representatives of majority black opinion.

What, then, prevents these arguably sensible measures? They are prevented largely by sanctions (the only rationale of which is to destabilize South Africa and promote a bloody revolution) and by the belief that any concession made to those who impose them will lead to further demands. At present, sanctions are ineffectual and will merely increase black unemployment and divert energy from the supremely important task of developing the economy and improving the life of the black population. What they do otherwise is to intensify the opposition of whites (and particularly relatively poor whites) to any sort of reform. It is possible that President Botha when re-elected will not continue with reform; it is also probable that he will. The existence of sanctions makes the first possibility vastly more likely. My final message: for God's sake, leave them alone!

Henry Stanhope

Who's for the Guns?

The Royal Artillery has just sent me for review the first volume of a new regimental history which covers the First World War. As one who narrowly missed promotion to lance-bombardier during two years' National Service, it is a book I have approached with some humility.

"The Guns! Thank God, the Guns!" is the title of a heroic Snaffles painting of the Battle of the Marne. It was a sentiment I never shared in that winter of '55, as we crouched in the chill of a late dawn on the barrack square at Oswestry. The rattle of limbers, the screams of "Take Post!" and the slam of the breach as we ranged our empty barrels over the awakening town, are bleak memories of this fairly inglorious gunner.

So too is that day when we fired real ammunition, on the foggy, sodden hillsides of Trawsfynydd in north Wales, and first experienced the crash, flash, bang of direct fire from our quivering 25-pounders.

The total incapacity of 23176809 Gunner Stanhope to read a military map or master logarithms continually surprised the Royal Regiment. On the other hand, the bewilderment was mutual. For my part I never could appreciate their feeling for "The Guns".

Dripping with moisture on an autumn morning, pointing like index fingers at the sky, they certainly frightened me as much as anyone. No doubt they could decide the fate of nations if required — and if the other nations did not have any. But I never felt, I fear, that bond that often makes a gunner risk his life for them.

This being the case, it says much for the skill and enthusiasm of the author of this regimental history, that distinguished artilleryman General Sir Martin Farndale, currently commander-in-chief of the British Army of the Rhine, that it kindled even in my breast a nostalgia for the regiment I once so humbly served.

By the end of the First World War, the most formidable punishment in history, the Royal Artillery had 550,000 men in northern France alone — more than half as many again as Britain's total armed forces today. It contained some

remarkable men — but had lost many equally brave ones.

There was gallant Captain Bradbury, who yelled "Who's for the Guns?" at the village of Nery in 1914, then led L Battery's famous fightback against the advancing enemy, until the last shell was spent and he himself lay dead among the thrashing, wounded horses. Three VC's were won on that day, including his own (posthumous).

Then there was Captain Reynolds of the 37th Battery Royal Field Artillery, who charged forward with his men at Le Cateau in the same year, through a volley of shrapnel and past incredulous German troops, to rescue two howitzers. "As they left, the centre driver was shot, throwing his whip into the air; this was caught by Captain Reynolds, who galloped alongside the centre team and kept them going as they charged down some astonished Germans and got clean away." He too was one of the three VC's who risked all they had for the guns.

Nor was the attachment felt only by the men who fired them. It was at Le Cateau again that the exhausted British infantry, after marching all night, broke ranks silently one by one to pat the guns dug in along the roadside, which had covered their retreat to the Marne.

"The mud is simply awful, worse I think than winter. The ground is churned up to a depth of 10 feet and is the consistency of porridge... The middles of the shell craters are so soft that one might sink out of sight... While we were shooting last night, I saw a horrid sight. A gunner from another battery ran through my guns. He was crazed with shock and, holding a hand blown from his wrist, he ran into the darkness and mud, shrieking, never to be seen again." So wrote Major the Master of Belhaven in his diary at Ypres in 1917.

I don't think I could have done what they did. But the story of what they did is quite compelling. History of the Royal Regiment of Artillery: Western Front 1914-18, by General Sir Martin Farndale (Royal Artillery Institution, £15 plus £3 p&p from The Registrar, RA Institution, Old Royal Military Academy, Woolwich SE18 4DN).



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JUDGING THE MEDIA

Sir John Donaldson, the Master of the Rolls, is worried about too lenient sentences. According to his speech at a Law Society conference he is also worried about the "current vogue" for "instant comment on particular judgments".

Were it not for that vogue, and those instant comments, it is hard to imagine Sir John publishing his worries about the sentences. But for Sir John all those instant comments "undermine public confidence not only in the judiciary but in the rule of law without suggesting what should be put in its place".

In Sir John's apparent scheme of things, the media would convey the judges' sentences without blame or indeed praise (for Sir John, in a less widely-reported phrase in his speech, showed consistency in that he also disapproved of any "adulation" of judges who hand down more popular sentences). And there, presumably, all cases would rest unless still more senior judges chose to judge them anew.

Sir John's ideal is far removed from, say, Thomas Jefferson's famously-loftier opinion of the media's worth: "Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter". That was Jefferson's way of emphasizing the importance of newspapers as a check on government — of which, in his terms, the judiciary is a part.

Doubtless Sir John is often

repelled by the crudity of the media's moralistic, frequently ignorant commenting on the lonely judgments of the bench. But it is he who is now pronouncing "without suggesting what should be put in its place".

He seems not to realise that the media always find room for later voices contradicting and correcting. To put it at its lowest, the media's constant need for controversy makes sure of that. Sir John's Oxford speech, in which he addressed himself to several current legal controversies, is simply one of the more decorous components of this clamour.

The alternative is a silence broken only by the sound of judges. Yet it was not the judges who determined that, for example, the life sentences in the Birmingham pub bombings of 1974 should now be before the Court of Appeal. It was the media.

Nor was Sir John convincing about the judges being "prevented by the wise tradition of the profession" from answering hostile criticism. Whenever that claim is made about anyone, all other citizens should be on their guard. It is remarkable how often the suggestion that they have no means of answering back is made on behalf of the most powerful and vocal in the land, such as Whitehall permanent secretaries and judges.

In relation to the specific cases which they have tried, it may be strictly true of judges. But the bench remains the best platform for instant comment that our institutions have de-

vised, as the careers of Judges Melford Stevenson, Argyll, and Pickles in their varying ways have proved.

Indeed, Sir John's Oxford speech should be seen as one of the more thoughtful contributions to that tradition. Having learned, with the help of the media, that the country shares his concern about lenient sentences, he gave strong arguments why it should be possible for such sentences to go to appeal and be increased.

Under legislation at present going through Parliament, the Attorney General would be able to send a lenient sentence to appeal. But the defendant would be in no danger of a heavier sentence. The Court of Appeal would simply hand down guidance for sentencing in similar cases.

Sir John had no difficulty in showing that this would be unsatisfactory. General guidance does not take account of specific cases. Unsatisfactory it may be, but there is no alternative if we are to preserve the principle that no defendant should be tried twice.

Like many of the great legal saws on which Britons are brought up, that principle may look a flimsy protection in the harsh world. But if the Government's present remedy for excessive leniency proves useless, the issue can be looked at again. To make a judgement about it, the public will need all the resources of a free society of which judges, and Masters of the Rolls are only more dignified parts than the instantly commenting media.

A CANDOUR TOO SOON FROM DR OWEN

Dr David Owen's particular appeal to the public lies in his willingness to give straight answers. He is seen as an honest politician with a natural disinclination to fudge, and this is a political asset not lightly to be thrown away.

Voters are quick to read between the lines of equivocation, sensing what the politician wishes to 'hide', and despising him for trying to hide it. Dr Owen also strikes a chord when he says candidly where he agrees as well as where he disagrees with his opponents.

So it should come as no surprise, and ought not to be a cause of rebuke, that Dr Owen, in his *Weekend World* interview on Sunday virtually admitted that the Alliance would find it much easier to form a coalition with the Tories than with Labour. That has been obvious for some time, at least so far as the SDP is concerned.

The Alliance would maintain the Conservatives' trade union reforms which Labour would repeal. It accepts a free market economy which Labour does not. Above all, the Alliance (with some Liberal unilateralist dissenters) would keep a British nuclear deterrent. The Alliance is also pro-

convincingly be said of Labour.

It follows that the Alliance would find it easier to make terms with the Tories than with the Labour Party. Of course, much divides the Alliance from the Tories. Mrs Shirley Williams's education policy is one example. But the biggest obstacle is that identified by Dr Owen: the demand of the Alliance for more expansionist economic policies as the way to combat unemployment. Still, no doubt sufficient agreement could be patched up to make workable a pro-Nato and an essentially free market Tory-Alliance coalition.

Yet he has exposed what is probably the Alliance's greatest weakness. If the voters are told that the Alliance is only likely to coalesce with the Tories, what will be the effect on the claim, particularly dear to that section of the SDP closest to Dr Owen, that its purpose is to replace Labour as the principal opposition to the Tories? Will it assist what Dr Owen recently called the "revolt against Labour in their heartlands"?

Admittedly, Alliance leaders also insist that they are offering "new" politics, by which they mean not new policies (most of theirs are rather old) but a new acceptance of a spectrum of politics in which

single-party majorities become almost impossible. Nevertheless, in policy terms they want to be the majority left-of-centre force, pushing Labour to the outside extreme of politics. That means appealing to moderate Labour voters, which is perhaps not best done by predicting that the result of heavy Alliance voting would be to sustain the Tories in a share of power.

Dr Owen's thinking aloud may also upset the many Liberals who are drawn much more than their SDP colleagues to a coalition with Labour, though again it is simply honest politics for Dr Owen to reason from his known belief that the Alliance between the two partners is not necessarily for ever.

The voters in their pragmatic way will work it out for themselves. But Dr Owen's candour may not help him in the Labour seats the Alliance needs to take, while Tory waverers in Tory seats may well be discouraged from voting Alliance if they conclude that the big Labour majorities will be unscathed, while Tory seats fall. Dr Owen's politics are commendably honest but it is possible that he has broken cover on this question a little too early in the pre-election campaign to do the Alliance any good.

FOR THE NEXT ICI

The spokesman for ICI did not quite say "Sir John Who?" when asked yesterday about the man who, until last week, was his company chairman. ICI HQ was manifestly not pleased that its withdrawal from Britain had been threatened by a man who had himself withdrawn only as far as a northern campus. "But, then that's Harvey Jones for you, shooting from the hip: no, there's not the slightest chance of us leaving the UK because of the brain drain: the Board has not even discussed it."

The former ICI chairman and New Chancellor of Bradford University had been speaking on a television programme about the parlous state of Britain's industrial research and development, one of many welcome examples of the media attention that has been given to this issue since we raised it in these columns two months ago. He said that "if British science goes down the slot or starts to lose its competitive position, over a period of time, we must question whether it is possible for a company like Ciba to continue to be based in the UK."

As a statement of commercial reality, those words of Sir John Harvey Jones, some time submariner, senior industrialist, outspoken political entrant and now Chancellor of one of Britain's less distin-

guished technological universities, are impeccable. As a salvo in the intensifying political war over how Britain can best reassert its scientific leadership, they may be rather less useful.

From ICI's point of view they are an embarrassment. The company — and indeed most of the chemicals sector — has a good record in research. ICI spends more than a £1 million a day, mostly in the UK but also in the United States and Japan. The company still claims to have the pick of newly qualified scientists each year; it receives up to 5000 applications for about 450 jobs.

There is long term concern in the chemicals industry about the quality of science education in schools. But most of its leaders accept that they have a responsibility to help produce the scientists of the future, not just to complain about the Government's failure to do so.

The case for a better partnership between industry and higher education is clear. The current argument is over how it should be made to happen. Sir John has long believed in the efficacy of big sticks upon politicians' heads. His hostility to Mrs Thatcher's government, barely hidden in the past despite the efforts of his corporate PR men, has now found

its spiritual home on the Bradford campus.

There are two separate arguments going on about Britain's technological future. The first is a sterile one. It pits a stung, philistine government against generous-hearted, blameless institutions. It pits those wanting only well-made products against those wanting only well-trained minds.

The second is more fruitful. It accepts that some universities have been in some areas self-indulgent and inefficient. It accepts that the Government has failed to put sufficient priority (political as well as financial) into putting matters right.

Both arguments appeared in last night's television programme. The first made the headlines. The second, from the technical director of Plessey, Dr William Gosling, did not. Yet it was Dr Gosling, with his call for "a changed pattern of research, development and higher education as a consequence of economic change", who was pointing the more profitable way forward.

All sides have to take part in changing that pattern. The profits will accrue not just to scientists (who will be more likely to receive the comparatively modest extra £100 million which their spokesmen seek) but to ICI, and of greater national importance still, the ICIs of the future.

Use of US bases in New Zealand

From the Prime Minister of New Zealand

Sir, Your report by Richard Long of April 9, "Lange admits deal on US base," is inaccurate. As both the New Zealand and US Governments have been quick to announce in response to this report, there is no "secret agreement" to safeguard the future of the US Antarctic facilities in Christchurch following the passage of New Zealand's anti-nuclear legislation.

The US use of the base is covered by long-standing public agreements which have been tabled in Parliament. The US Administration has consistently denied that it has any intention to move its Antarctic operations from Christchurch.

It is wrong to assert that any deal over the Antarctic base was necessary as a result of our anti-nuclear legislation. Antarctic operations are of course required by the Antarctic Treaty to be non-military. Our anti-nuclear legislation, which has been public since it was introduced into Parliament in December, 1985, provides expressly for blanket clearances on flights associated with Antarctic operations.

The article's assertion that it was a "secret treaty" in possession of the Leader of the Opposition, Mr Jim Bolger, which "forced" me to reveal the non-existent secret agreement is also wrong. The text in fact related not to a message from the US Government but to a meeting Mr Bolger had with Mr Richard Armitage, Assistant Secretary, International Security Affairs, US Department of Defence.

A further suggestion that the Government's policy differs between ships and aircraft is also wrong. We have one policy which relates to neither ships nor aircraft, but to nuclear weapons, which we are determined to keep out of New Zealand.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID LANGE,
Parliament Buildings,
Wellington, New Zealand.
April 10.

Student problems

From Mr Keith Foreman and Mrs Joyce Ellis

Sir, We welcome the formation of the new Council for Industry and Higher Education (editorial, April 1). The opening up of higher education to more people from a wider range of backgrounds and at different times in their lives is laudable, as is the possibility of rethinking and restructuring many of the courses. We believe that the notion of bench, desk and boardroom working together is long overdue.

Nevertheless, there will be little change at the 18+ stage unless something is done about the problems facing students at 16, the compulsory leaving age. Despite increasing opportunities available to youngsters through the comprehensive system, there is still nationally a disappointing staying-on rate in our schools and colleges. When there are financial difficulties at home, unsupported sixth-form study is often much less attractive than the alternatives of paid youth training scheme placements or receiving supplementary benefit.

Are we not discriminating against talent which surely cannot be assumed to be a prerogative of the well-heeled?

Yours sincerely,
KEITH FOREMAN (Principal),
JOYCE ELLIS,
Burlingame Community College,
Thorpe Hill,
Loughborough, Leicestershire.

Care of children

From Mr J. M. Batten

Sir, Mrs Southern (April 6) need not worry about the introduction of "Continental" hours in school. My daughter is at present on an exchange visit to France where she is attending a local school. It starts at 8 am and finishes at 5 pm — what could be better?

My only concern is that the teaching profession will realise their mistake and want to retain the British school day!

Yours faithfully,
J. M. BATTEN,
39 Seward Road,
Bromley, Kent.
April 6.

Garden seats

From Mr C. T. Holroyd

Sir, The Royal Opera (report, March 26) plans to increase seat prices by almost 20 per cent at the top price range and corresponding, slightly lower increases for the cheaper seats.

Few genuine opera fans would deny the need for more realistic prices in the face of Arts Council parsimony, but another, perhaps, fairer, way of increasing box-office revenue would be to make ballet seat prices nearer those for opera.

Both opera and ballet companies at Covent Garden share the same orchestra and have their own music staff. The expense of maintaining the opera chorus and the corps de ballet should be roughly comparable.

Both companies have several new productions each season and while ballet settings are often simpler and cost less, dance costumes are often elaborate.

The union cost difference would seem to lie in the fees charged by the star soloists.

Bearing all this in mind I find it difficult to understand why ballet seat prices are almost half those for opera.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER T. HOLROYD,
14 Bendemeer Road, SW15.

Tradition of episcopal choice

From the Bishop of Chichester

Sir, As one who was involved in the negotiations which worked out the agreement concerning the appointment of bishops, may I point out that that agreement leaves the Prime Minister completely free to choose either of the names submitted by the commission or to ask for others ("Thatcher rejects choice of 'too left-wing' bishop", April 9). The limitation contained in it is that the Prime Minister will only put to the Queen names that come through the commission.

It has often been claimed that it is part of the vocation of the Church of England to show that the traditions of Catholic, Protestant and liberal theology can be held together in one Communion. History seems to me to show that until that vocation has been absorbed into a much greater unity of the churches there is need for the Crown and Parliament to hold the ring and prevent any one of the groups in the Church from making changes which undermine the existence of the others and destroy that vocation.

Part of "holding the ring" should be to ensure that the episcopate fairly represents the main groupings in the Church.

Yours faithfully,
ERIC CICESTER,
The Palace,
Chichester, Sussex.
April 10.

From the Reverend Professor D. R. Jones

Sir, I write as a former prolocutor in General Synod, who played some part in the inception of the Worship and Doctrine measure and the new method of appointing diocesan bishops. The point of both was to free the Church to order her worship and appoint her chief pastors, without recourse to the extreme expedient of disestablishment.

We thought we had achieved the desired end. In respect of worship, if the Church is still not free to present the Book of Common Prayer as she would wish, that is the fault of a synod which has not seen the implication of its negative votes.

In respect of episcopal appointments success has depended partly on the skill of the appointments commission, and partly on the sensitive exercise by the State of its residual authority. For the most part the State has honoured the agreement both in letter and spirit. But now a new threat has

Food colour curbs

From the Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture

Sir, I would be reluctant to assert as categorically as Geoffrey Cannon does (Health, April 9) the quantity of colours a child might have consumed by the age of 12. Therefore I have commissioned a survey of additive intakes in the diet because of the serious lack of reliable information on this matter.

There is no "official" definition in my department of a young child. A report in 1982 on artificial feeds for the young infant from the Government's Advisory Committee on the Medical Aspects of Food Policy used as its definitions that a young child is a person between the ages of one and three. It is therefore untrue to suggest that we use the highly restrictive definition of "under 12 months" which your article claims.

The UK is not in "sharp contrast" to other countries in its authorisation of colours for use in food. Very few other countries apply quantitative restrictions. In the European Community only Belgium and Denmark do. The Food Advisory Committee is now proposing that this should be the case in the UK and, if this recommendation is accepted, the UK will therefore be ahead of most countries in its controls over colours.

A report of the European

PLO plight

From Lord Chelwood

Sir, You rightly draw attention (April 6) to the impotence (even the apparent indifference) of the Security Council to the terrible plight of the Palestinian refugees in the Lebanese "camps".

But what an extraordinary suggestion that the "PLO fighters" should "leave". Where would you have them go, Gaza or Monte Carlo?

Yours sincerely,
CHELWOOD,
House of Lords.
April 7.

A space odyssey

From Mr Arthur C. Clarke

Sir, While I appreciate the reference (Spectrum, April 3) to "Arthur C. Clarke's film, 2001 — a Space Odyssey", may I point out that that gentleman named Stanley Kubrick was also involved.

Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR C. CLARKE,
Leslie's House,
25 Barnes Place,
Colombo 7, Sri Lanka.
April 7.

City of the future

From the Chairman of Auroville International United Kingdom

Sir, With reference to the article on Auroville, the international settlement in South India (March 10), this represents one of the most hopeful collective adventures of our time, being based on the ideal of human unity. Auroville began on eroded desertland and grew rapidly despite great hardship and outside interference. The then

appeared. It is the State's exercise of its prerogative on political grounds.

Such a degree of confidentiality has been sought in the appointment of bishops that it is difficult to be sure of the course of events. In the case of the appointment at Birmingham (report, April 9) we can be certain enough. No one could accuse the appointments commission (constituted as it is) of any other motive than to provide Birmingham with the most suitable bishop for its needs.

The rejection of a man of spirituality, who has made the grade as a suffragan, must be because he is judged too left wing.

That means that the Prime Minister has turned this into a political appointment. In so doing she has lit a fuse which will not go out until there is an explosion.

The Church clearly does not have the freedom it thought it had. We now have to seek the means of freeing ourselves from the restricting harness of Big Brother.

How foolish to provoke this reaction! The two names are acknowledged to be those of two of the most promising young bishops in the Church of England, both destined to become influential diocesan bishops. The Prime Minister's superior patronage was unnecessary, but the signal has been sent, the message heard, and the more radical churchmen are saying, "I told you so!"

Yours faithfully,

DOUGLAS R. JONES,
Whitefriars,
King's Road,
Longniddry, East Lothian.

From the Reverend Dr Francis Bridger

Sir, The Bishop of Stepney opposes Government social policy and is refused the see of Birmingham. The Bishop of Kensington opposes Government nuclear policy and is offered the see of Birmingham. Does this mean that unilateralism is no longer too left wing?

Yours faithfully,
FRANCIS BRIDGER,
St John's College,
Chilwell Lane,
Bramcote, Nottingham.

Commission's Scientific Committee for Food in 1982 suggested that only between 0.03 per cent and 0.15 per cent of the population showed some form of reaction to food additives, considerably less than the percentage that shows adverse reaction to certain foods. I want to know whether the extent of the problem in this country is of similar proportions and that is why I have commissioned a research project costing £300,000. This work is being done for my department by Wycombe General and Guy's hospitals.

To say that careful monitoring of children's diet would be to use them as guinea pigs is ridiculous. But on the present evidence there is no case for a wholesale ban on the use of colours in food. We do however require under the food labelling regulations that colours are identified in ingredients lists so that individuals may take steps to avoid those they do not want to eat.

The recently published Food Advisory Committee *Review of the Colouring Matter in Food Regulations 1973*, which is available from HMSO, is a careful and reasoned study of the whole issue.

Yours truly,
DONALD THOMPSON,
Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food,
Whitehall Place, SW1.
April 10.

Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, realizing its potentialities, supported the endorsement of the Auroville Act of Parliament (1980) and the setting up of an international advisory council.

The residents now number over 600, comprising 26 nationalities. The desert has become life-supporting: crops, orchards and forests flourish; over a million trees have been planted.

"A Utopia turned sour?" Rather a new way of life in the making, the importance of which, both for India and mankind, the Indian Government is keenly aware. This fact gives great heart to all those who care for the future of Auroville.

Yours faithfully,
E. B. SCHNAPPER, Chairman,
Auroville International United Kingdom,
Boytons, Hempstead,
Saffron Walden, Essex.

Unfair to Camels

From Mr Humphrey Wynn

Sir, Your artist, in seeking to depict the old quip that a camel is a horse designed by a committee in order to illustrate Mr Pearce Wright's article on Britain's high-technology failures (April 9), does a grave injustice in his caption by referring to the Sowith Camel, which was the brainchild of three famous designers (Tom Sopwith, Fred Sigrist and Harry Hawker) and was the most successful British fighter of the First World War.

Yours faithfully,
HUMPHREY WYNN,
Difford House, School Lane,
Lodsworth, West Sussex.
April 9.

ON THIS DAY

APRIL 14 1875

The Carlist wars for more than 50 years from 1833 kept Spain in ever-recurring crises. The incident described below shows the savagery with which events were conducted

SPANISH REPRISALS

FROM A CORRESPONDENT: ESTELLA, APRIL 1

General Mendry has at last carried out to the bitter end his long-repeated threat of reprisals, and today eight unfortunate Alfontist prisoners fell victims, not to Carlist cruelty, but to the barbarous system on which the Alfontist authorities permit their "contra-guerrilleros" to carry on the war.

The act of cruelty which led to this terrible reprisal was perpetrated a few days ago in the village of San Martin de Uza, a few miles from Tafalla. A small band of Rosas's "partidas", who had established themselves in that village, were coming out of church after hearing mass, when they were informed by a peasant that the village was surrounded by the Alfontists. They immediately endeavoured to cut their way through the enemy's lines, and a sergeant with four men succeeded, but the others, eight in number, finding themselves completely outnumbered, surrendered to a squadron of cavalry, after having first received a promise of quarter. No sooner, however, had the cavalry conducted their prisoners back to San Martin, than the "contra-guerrilleros" of the notoriously cruel Lacalle set upon them and massacred seven of them on the spot with their bayonets. The survivor escaped to a neighbouring house, where he barricaded the door and determined to sell his life as dearly as possible; he was at last induced to surrender by the most solemn assurances that his life would be spared, but, on his opening the door, he was seized, the muzzle of a rifle was forced into his mouth, and his brains were blown out. General Mendry, directly he heard of what had happened, addressed himself to General Quesada, the Commander-in-Chief of the Alfontist Army, insisting upon satisfaction being given, and proposing that a joint commission of the two armies should inquire into the circumstances and bring the guilty parties to punishment.

Last night orders were given to the authorities of the Estella depot, where about 600 Alfontist prisoners are located, to select by lot seven soldiers and one sergeant, who were to be prepared for execution the following morning. Lots were drawn, and soon after 9 this morning the unfortunate men selected were marched out to the parade-ground outside Estella, each accompanied by a priest and holding a crucifix in his hand. The regiments of Navarre, Castile, and Aragon, quartered in and near Estella, each sent one company to witness the execution, and a battery of artillery and a squadron of cavalry were likewise present. General Mendry and his Staff having arrived on the ground, the troops formed three sides of a square, and in the middle were placed, kneeling beside their confessions, the destined victims. The last moment had arrived, the priests were on the point of bidding a last farewell, when suddenly one of the prisoners, a Navarrese irregular, sprang to his feet and made a dash for the river, which was only about ten yards off. The guards immediately fired, and a ball struck the unfortunate man in the back. This, however, did not stop him. He staggered forwards, and, throwing himself into the water, struck out gamely for dear life. A second ball, however, put an end to his exertions, and sent him to the bottom, to rise no more.

A woman's work

From Mr F. Richards

Sir, I was interested to read (Family Money, March 28) that the price of a wife is £370.25 per week.

To avoid a charge of discrimination, I shall be grateful if Legal & General will now put a price on a husband for the work he does in addition to earning a living to support the family.

I refer to his duties as security guard, financial adviser, holiday courier, chauffeur, gardener/handyman, washer-up, painter and decorator, shoe cleaner, toy repairer, etc. etc. etc.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK RICHARDS,
32 The Farway,
Flackwell Heath,
Buckinghamshire.

From Mr Brian Gant

Sir, The house in which my former wife lives is owned by her. She pays the mortgage and does not need my permission to claim tax relief from the Inland Revenue. So my problem is different from Mr Rushmore's (April 7). My difficulty is that she still expects me to give her the money with which she pays her mortgage.

What price equality indeed!

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN GANT,
Nyanza, Harwell Lane,
South Brent, Devon.

From Mr Anthony C. Batchelor

Sir, Assuming my wife is worth £20,000 a year gross (she is clearly above average) this would be worth just over £14,000 to a married man after tax and national insurance contributions.

I have looked at last year's domestic expenditure and find her half-share came to some £14,130. Can any reader suggest how I can recoup the odd £130 she owes me?

Yours faithfully,
A. C. BATCHELOR,
4 Fir Tree Road,
Banstead, Surrey.
April 7.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9JN

BOOKING KEY
★ Seats available
★ Returns only

THEATRE
LONDON

★ **EVERYMAN IN HIS HUMOUR:** Funny, high spirited Johnson comedy of confusion. An RSC production. Puddle Dock, E4 (01-228 5588). Tube: Blackfriars, Mon-Sat 7.30-10.30pm, matinee Thurs and Sat 2.5pm, £4.50-£12.50, until July 4.

★ **HEAVEN BENT, HELL BOUND:** Excellent adaptation of a classic Spanish drama. Harms, cat, and the devil. Gripping performances. Bridge Lane Theatre, Bridge Lane, SW11 (01-228 8828). Tube: Clapham Junction/Battersea Park, Tues-Sat 8.10-10.10pm, £3.50-£4.50, until April 25.

Theatre (01-734 8951)... 42nd Street (01-336 6108/9) or 01-240 9066/7... Me and My Girl Adelphi Theatre (01-336 7511/7558 and 01-240 7913/4)... Les Miserables Palace Theatre (01-434 0909)... The Mousetrap St Martin's Theatre (01-336 1443, 01-379 8433)... No Sex, Please, We're Married Duchess Theatre (01-838 8243)... Phantom of the Opera: Sold out until October. Her Majesty's Theatre (01-228 4544, 01-379 6111, 01-240 7200)... Run for your Wife Criterion Theatre (01-330 3216, 01-379 6565)... Starlight Express Apollo Victoria Theatre (01-838 8665, 01-830 8622)... Stepping Out: Duke of York's Theatre (01-336 5122, 01-336 9837)... Times Dominion Theatre (01-580 8845, 01-336 2629).

OUT OF TOWN

★ **BIRMINGHAM:** Knuckle David has a fast-moving puppet-eye thriller, with Brian Clegg, Joanna Hole and Ernest Clark. Alexandra Theatre, Station Street SE1 6AS (01-251 1231). Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 8.10pm, £3-£5, until April 18.

★ **EASTBOURNE:** Not About Heroes: Stephen McDonald's re-creation of the meeting of Shakespeare's Hamlet and the real-life hero, Sir John. Devonshire Park Theatre, Cornhill Street (0323 35363). Mon-Sat 8.10pm, matinee Wed 2.30-4.30pm, Sat 5-7pm, until April 18.

★ **LEICESTER:** My Sister in This House: Nancy Macdonald directs a production of the play based on the real-life crime that inspired Genet's *The Maids*. Haymarket Studio Theatre, Regent Gate (0533 330757). Mon-Thurs 7.45-9.50pm, Fri and Sat 8.15-10.20pm, £3-£12.50, until April 25.

★ **LEEDS:** Torpedoes in the Jacuzzi: Phil Young's new comedy revealing ambition and intrigue in the world of the British Royal Navy. Playhouse Theatre, Calverley Street (0532 442111). Tonight 8.10pm, Wed-Sat 7.30-9.30pm, £4-£12.50, until April 25.

★ **MANCHESTER:** The Merchant of Venice: Oslo's Espen Skjontberg re-creates the company to play Shylock in a brilliant new production. Royal Exchange Theatre, Cross Street (061 833 9833). Mon-Thurs 7.30-10.15pm, Fri and Sat 8.10-10.45pm, matinee Wed 2.30-4.30pm, £3-£12.50, until May 18.

★ **NORTHAMPTON:** Seamus: Helen Shapiro and Nicholas Bennett in a popular musical expanded from the play *Two for the Seamus*. Royal Theatre, 15 Guildhall Road (0543 3253/24811). Mon-Sat 7.30-9.50pm, matinee Thurs 2.30-4.50pm, £3-£5, until April 25.

★ **STRATFORD:** Julius Caesar: New season opens with Roger Allam superb as Brutus and Nicholas Farrell as Antony in Terry Hands's classic production. Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon (0783 255823). Mon-Sat 7.30-10.15pm, £5-£17.50.

FILMS

★ **Also on national release:** ★ **Advance booking possible**

★ **BLUE VELVET (18):** David Lynch's surreal tale about the dark surface of an American small town being violently ripped apart. With Isabelle Rossellini and Dennis Hopper (120 min). Chelsea Cinema (01-351 3742). Progs 1.10, 3.35, 6.05, 8.40, 11.10, £3-£5, until April 25.

★ **THE FLIGHT OF THE NAVIGATOR (U):** Joy Cramer as the boy navigator for a distant planet in a space flight (90 min). Cannon Haymarket (01-336 1627). Progs 1.15, 3.35, 6.05, 8.40, 11.10, £3-£5, until April 25.

★ **ODEON KENSINGTON (01-502 6644, 01-502 5193):** Progs 2.35, 4.50, 8.15.

★ **ODEON SWISS Cottage (01-722 5805):** Progs 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30.

ENTERTAINMENTS

★ **CONCERTS**

★ **BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS:** Directed by MICHAEL RUDMAN. A National Theatre Production. Brighton Beach, Brighton. Mon-Sat 7.30-9.30pm, matinee Wed 2.30-4.30pm, £3-£5, until April 25.

★ **ROYAL OPERA HOUSE:** 240 Coventry Street, London W1A 1AA. Tel: 01-251 1231. Box Office: 01-251 1231. Tickets: £3-£12.50.

★ **THEATRES**

★ **AMERICAN GIRL:** 01-228 5588. Tube: Blackfriars, Mon-Sat 7.30-10.30pm, matinee Thurs and Sat 2.5pm, £4.50-£12.50, until July 4.

★ **HEAVEN BENT, HELL BOUND:** Bridge Lane Theatre, Bridge Lane, SW11 (01-228 8828). Tube: Clapham Junction/Battersea Park, Tues-Sat 8.10-10.10pm, £3.50-£4.50, until April 25.

★ **GOTHIC (18):** Ken Russell's film stars with the stormy gathering at Byron's Villa Diodati which inspired Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*. With Gabriel Byrne, Natasha Richardson and Julian Sands (97 min). Cannon Picture Palace (01-336 0631). Progs 2.15, 4.20, 6.25, 8.30, 10.35.

★ **HAUNTED HONEYMOON (PG):** Mild parody of the haunted house genre, with Gene Wilder and Goldie Hawn as the lovelorn couple who attack in a large country mansion, and Dom DeLuise in drag (83 min). Leicester Square Theatre (01-530 5262, 01-530 7615). Progs 1.15, 3.35, 6.05, 8.35.

★ **LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS (PG):** Eccentric story of a boy, a girl and a man-eating plant called Audrey II. Rick Moranis, Ellen Greene and many cameo appearances (94 min). Leicester Square Theatre (01-530 5262, 01-530 7615). Progs 1.15, 3.35, 6.05, 8.35.

★ **OVER THE TOP (PG):** Perfect tale for a drama featuring Sylvester Stallone as an arm-wrestling truck driver who tries to get to know his neglected son (93 min). Cannon Picture Palace (01-336 0631). Progs 2.15, 4.20, 6.25, 8.30, 10.35.

★ **PERSONAL SERVICES (18):** Terry Jones's outrageous comedy, inspired by the life of Cynnie. Cannon Picture Palace (01-336 0631). Progs 2.15, 4.20, 6.25, 8.30, 10.35.

★ **THE VOYAGE HOME - STAR TREK IV (PG):** The Enterprise team star in another sci-fi fantasy. Leonard Nimoy directs (119 min). Cannon Picture Palace (01-336 0631). Progs 2.15, 4.20, 6.25, 8.30, 10.35.

★ **ROMANTICISM BEGINS:** The ECO conducted by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Royal Albert Hall, London W1 (01-222 1081). 8.10pm, £4-£10.

CONCERTS

★ **SUSAN CHILCOTE:** Songs by Schubert and Chopin, with W. G. F. Foulkes. Bishopsgate Hall, 230 Bishopsgate, London EC2 (01-247 6844). 1.05-1.55pm, £1.50.

★ **BURPRISE:** Northside School of the Arts Chamber Choir and Orchestra perform Haydn's *Symphony No. 94* (The Surprise), and excerpts from Haydn's *Creation*. St Anne and St Agnes, Gresham Street, London EC2 (01-373 5555). 1.10-1.55pm, free.

★ **BRITTEN'S CANTICLES:** English National Opera performs Britten's canticles to Mark Haddon. These include *My Beloved is Death*, *Death of St Narcissus*, *Abraham and Isaac*, *Journal of the Magi*, *Saints of the Rain*, *St Martin in the Desert*, *Traveller*. Royal Albert Hall, London W1 (01-222 1081). 1.05-1.55pm, free.

LUNCHTIME

★ **THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA:** The musical. Royal Albert Hall, London W1 (01-222 1081). 1.05-1.55pm, £1.50.

★ **THE AMEN CORNER:** The musical. Royal Albert Hall, London W1 (01-222 1081). 1.05-1.55pm, £1.50.



Katy James, the manager, and Brian Bradford, director, of the London International Book Fair, our native sister to Frankfurt, which opens today at Olympia. For the first time all the major United Kingdom publishers are taking part, with many visitors from overseas. It is partly about trade, and hype, and publishers bidding for books, and eyeing the opposition. But it is also intended to beat the drum for British books at the great British reading and non-reading public. Tomorrow is North American day, with a government sponsored delegation by American and Canadian publishers, supported by an American football team, the Warriors, their cheerleaders, American jazz bands, an American

cop, and American-style food and cocktails in the catering areas. There will be various launches, signing sessions, and demonstrations for the public. Unusual happenings at the individual stands include some visiting PR kooles and chances to win a weekend for two in Amsterdam. Apart from the razzamazz and the noble spectacle of UK publishers drawn up in battle order, there will even be a lot of books, some of them quite good books, to look at; but it will be too noisy for reading without earplugs and a good book. The public are admitted from 3pm-6.30pm today and tomorrow, and 9am-4pm on Thursday. Admission £4 (including catalogue). Olympia 2, Kensington, London W14 (01-603 3344). Philip Howard

★ **LA BOHEME:** Golan Javaheri's production of the opera. Royal Albert Hall, London W1 (01-222 1081). 8.10pm, £4-£10.

★ **GLASSBORO:** Jane Glover conducts the London Mozart Players in the *Symphony No. 38* by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Royal Albert Hall, London W1 (01-222 1081). 8.10pm, £4-£10.

JAZZ

★ **JAMES MOODY:** A veteran bebop saxophonist who presents his music with a new twist. Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Finsbury Street, London EC2 (01-438 0747). 8.30pm, £3-£5 (members).

★ **BILL BRUFFORD:** The multi-instrumentalist and composer. Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Finsbury Street, London EC2 (01-438 0747). 8.30pm, £3-£5 (members).

ROCK

★ **MICHAEL MCDONALD:** First British tour by the former Beatle. The Dome, London EC3 (01-583 8888). 8.10pm, £4-£10.

★ **THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA:** The musical. Royal Albert Hall, London W1 (01-222 1081). 1.05-1.55pm, £1.50.

TOP CLASSICAL COMPACT DISCS

1 (1) Holst: The Planets, BPO/Karajan Deutsche Grammophon
2 (4) Vivaldi: Four Seasons, AAM/Hwoodwood Lyre/Dacca
3 (4) Vivaldi: Four Seasons, SCO/Laredo Imp Red
4 (3) Johann Strauss: Famous Waltzes, VPO/Boskovsky Ovation
5 (3) Paganini: Paganini Collection Stylus
6 (2) Beethoven: Symphonies 8, 9, BPO/Karajan Philips
7 (2) Elgar: Violin Concerto, Kennedy/COA/Handley Philips
8 (1) Grieg: Peer Gynt Suite, BPO/Karajan DG
9 (1) Rimsky-Korsakov: Scheherazade, BPO/Karajan DG
10 (1) Schubert: Piano Sonata in A-flat, Brendel Philips
11 (1) Schubert: Piano Sonata in A-flat, Brendel Philips
12 (1) Beethoven: Symphony 3, BPO/Karajan DG
13 (1) Beethoven: Eine kleine Nachtmusik, BPO/Karajan DG
14 (1) Elgar: Violin Concerto, Kennedy/COA/Handley Philips
15 (1) Beethoven: Violin Concerto, COA/Davis Philips
16 (1) Rachmaninov: Piano Concertos 2 & 4, DG
17 (1) Rachmaninov: Piano Concertos 2 & 4, DG
18 (1) Mendelssohn: Symphony 3, BPO/Karajan DG
19 (1) Dvorak: New World Symphony, LSO/Toscanini DG
20 (1) Beethoven: Piano Concertos 2 & 5, LSO/Toscanini DG

DANCE

★ **ATHENS-LONDON:** Greek choreographers Angela Lyras and Denise Perdikis bring the first companies to London for the first time. The Place, Dukes Road, London WC1 (01-387 0031). 8-9.45pm, £3.

★ **CARNEGIE:** A high-powered cast from London Festival Ballet gives Roland Petit's dance drama and new works by Kevin Hagen and Lyras. Theatre Royal, Chichester, London (01-228 5555). 7.30-10pm, £2.75-£3.75.

★ **SWAN LAKE:** Andre Prokofiev's production for Northern Ballet Theatre brings out the stars. Theatre Royal, Theatre Square, Nottingham (0522 482266). 7.30-9.30pm, £3.50-£7.50.

★ **AMERICAN SUITE:** Extremity Dance Theatre in new works by Viola Farber and David Gordon. Theatre Royal, Jersey Street, Winchester (0952 63210). 7.45-9.45pm, £3-£5.

GALLERIES

★ **TONY SMITH:** Intriguing, Surrealist paintings of couples, charged with raw sensuality. Art Space Gallery, 84 St Peter's Street, London W1 (01-259 7002). Tues-Sat 2-7pm, Sun 4-7pm, free, until May 6.

★ **F. E. McWILLIAM:** Recent sculptures by a major surrealist artist of the 1930s, now little remembered and certainly under-appreciated. Gordon Gallery, 36 Farnborough Street, London W1 (01-259 7002). free, until April 25.

★ **DAVID GARLAND AND INGLIM SKOGHOLT:** Decorative abstract pottery and tapestries respectively. Crafts Council Gallery, 12 Waterloo Place, London W1 (01-438 4811). Tues-Sat 10-5pm, Sun 2-5pm, free, until June 7.

BOOKINGS

★ **HARROGATE SPRING MUSIC FESTIVAL:** Bookings for the festival. Harrogate, North Yorkshire. Tel: 01430 2222.

★ **ROYAL OPERA:** Postcard booking for the season. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066/1011).

★ **SADLER'S WELLS AT OSBORNE:** Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet perform *Swan Lake*, *La Bayadere*, *La Fille du Garde*. Sadler's Wells, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire. Tel: 01927 5555.

WALKS

★ **GHOSHS OF THE WEST END:** Meet Embankment tube, 7.30pm, £2.25.

★ **INNIS OF COURT - ENGLAND'S LEGAL HERITAGE:** Meet Chancery Lane tube (behind office), 11am, £2.

★ **JEWISH GETTO ALLEYS & OLD COCKNEY QUARTERS:** Meet Chancery Lane tube (behind office), 11am, £3.

★ **POLITICAL LONDON - GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENT:** Meet Embankment tube, 11.30am, £2.50.

★ **PEPPY, THE PLAQUE AND THE GREAT FIRE:** Meet Museum of London, 2.30pm, £2.75.

TALKS

★ **ARCHITECTS AND THEIR WORK:** Illustrated lecture by Australian Ken Woolley about his career both as a government architect and in private practice. Royal Institute of British Architects, 66 Portland Place, London W1 (01-680 5533). 6.15pm, £2.

★ **NORTHERN LAKELAND:** Illustrated talk by National Park Area Ranger, David Angell. Lake District National Park Visitor Centre, Brockholes, Windermere, Cumbria (096 626011). 1.30pm, £2 (includes admission to the Centre).

★ **ARTS POLICY REDERIVED:** Mark Fisher, Shadow Arts Minister, in.

OTHER EVENTS

★ **KA-TEI:** First day of a six-day exhibition (Ka-tei) - Japanese flower arrangement - by master and author Yukio Sawano. Smiths Galleries, 56 Euston Street, Covent Garden, London WC1 (01-228 5555). 10am-6pm, adult £1, child 50p, until April 18.

★ **SPRING FESTIVAL AT THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM:** Discovery room with hands-on exhibits for children and families to explore, and focus points in the mammal, bird, and insect galleries with special sessions run by museum staff (check at information desk for times).

★ **BRITISH LIBRARY FILMS:** Bookbinding (11am). The Printer's Tale (2pm). British Library Seminar Room, Great Russell Street, WC1 (01-680 1544). free.

BOOKINGS

★ **HARROGATE SPRING MUSIC FESTIVAL:** Bookings for the festival. Harrogate, North Yorkshire. Tel: 01430 2222.

★ **ROYAL OPERA:** Postcard booking for the season. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066/1011).

★ **SADLER'S WELLS AT OSBORNE:** Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet perform *Swan Lake*, *La Bayadere*, *La Fille du Garde*. Sadler's Wells, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire. Tel: 01927 5555.

LAST CHANCE

★ **BESANT:** Constructed risk films by Albert and David Besant, with twelve life-sized models of ladders, cases, boxes and bro-houses; plus black and white drawings and sketches. Ends today. Canada House, Trafalgar Square, London SW1 (01-629 9482).

★ **ALFRED MURRINGS:** Survey of early impressionistic country scenes by artist who later became famous for paintings of houses. Until Saturday. Victoria Art Gallery, Bridge Street, Bath (01225 6111).

★ **J. J. AUDUBON:** Prints from the Birds of America series by a single-illustrated by American Ken Woolley about his career both as a government architect and in private practice. Royal Institute of British Architects, 66 Portland Place, London W1 (01-680 5533). 6.15pm, £2.

CINEMAS

★ **THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA:** The musical. Royal Albert Hall, London W1 (01-222 1081). 1.05-1.55pm, £1.50.

★ **THE AMEN CORNER:** The musical. Royal Albert Hall, London W1 (01-222 1081). 1.05-1.55pm, £1.50.

THE ARTS

A night of social concern

Last night's television included programmes on housing, education, inner-city police, unemployment, strip-searching and nuclear power. What is it about Monday nights that induces such social concern in the programmers?

After Chernobyl - Closer to Home (Horizon, BB2) took a look at Hartlepool power station in the light of last

TELEVISION

year's nuclear accident. It immediately became apparent that, however user-friendly the Government attempts to make our local power-stations, and they are trying with guided tours and chatty films, the facts about nuclear power remain immensely frightening. The Horizon investigation was as stolid as it could be on such a potentially dramatic subject. Couched in the incomprehensible jargon of bureaucracy, it was only the disturbing nature of our emergency procedures which kept the programme going. These are based on the "reference accident", or the worst (credible), as opposed to the "credible" accident projected as possible at Hartlepool. Should some other types of accident occur, then where would we be?

As it is, policemen are scheduled to wander around the local golf-course holding megaphones to call everybody inside, while more brave men would stand in the open air saving peeper-counters to measure radiation. Cleveland's emergency planning office was equipped with a telephone switchboard that might well have come straight from a Pathe newsreel.

Open Space (BBC2) attacked the practice of strip-searching as carried out in prisons and by the police and customs officials. "It makes you hate, you never get rid of that," said one woman, while another, strip-searched 90 times during a year on remand (she was acquitted at the trial), remembered that the foreknowledge of the strip "was saying to a girl, you are going to be raped again on Monday".

The programme was simple and effective. So, claimed security experts, is strip-searching, although there were no figures involved either to support or dispute this. The argument that this activity has more to do with removing a prisoner's dignity and self-image than it does with checking contraband was illustrated by the blatant contrast between a prison officer's training demonstration - a friendly session where he showed concern over a cold draught through the door - and the brutal experience as described by former prisoners.

Alexandra Shulman

Violent images turned to pleasing patterns

Extraordinary, the variety of Scottish painting at the moment, we breezily observe, for all the world as though there was some inherent reason why Scottish painting should be any more uniform than English or French or German painting. In a way, perhaps, the proponents have brought this upon themselves, since Scottish painting, at any rate outside the Borders, always seems to be very aggressively labelled Scottish, like something necessarily apart.

Sometimes it is, sometimes it is not. I wonder, for instance, if anyone who looked at the work of the 20-odd contemporary Scottish painters being shown (until May 23) by Conservation Management at Turberville Smith, 16-17 Hay Hill, would guess that they were all Scots, unless told. Certainly he might find it difficult to look at them sensibly in a furniture showroom, even a very grand one, since the inevitable association is decoration, and, while a very few of the pictures on the walls would obviously qualify, many of the biggest and most prominent are much too assertive and eccentric to fit contentedly with anyone's carpets and curtains.

Particularly notable in this respect are the works of the new generation of Glasgow Boys. Though Peter Howson and Ken Currie (not to mention Stephen Conroy, the latest graduate from Glasgow School of Art) would never be mistaken for one another, they do have that toughness and since we have come to expect from the Glasgow-trained, Howson especially, evidently fascinated with images of violence - boxers, wrestlers and other fighting men bulk large - does at the same time have the enviable ability to turn them into satisfying patterns, seemingly bent and coiled to spring out of their tight frames at the slightest provocation. Stephen

GALLERIES

Contemporary Scottish Paintings
Turberville Smith

Steven Campbell
Marlborough Fine Art

Craigie Aitchison
Albemarle

Paul Neagu: Nine
Catalytic Stations
Serpentine

Paul Neagu:
In-form-ings
Curwen

Conroy's qualifying painting, 167 Renfrew Street, painted in a much smoother, almost relaxed kind of way, builds its sense of menace and mystery by more indirect means, and bodes well for his future.

Steven Campbell, showing recent work at Marlborough Fine Art until May 1, belongs to the same general group, but has moved on considerably in public awareness, especially in America. His art is much more fanciful than that of most of his fellows. His paintings tend to have elaborate programmes and, though supporters usually say that of course it doesn't matter if you don't know what they are, or at any rate grasp



Steven Campbell's mysterious *Down Near the Railway a Man's Possessions are Carried Away by Termites*

the finer points, I am not altogether convinced of that.

Certainly if you ignore the references in the titles, and even the lengthy inscriptions on some of the pieces themselves, you are left wrestling with a large body of private myth which may be difficult just to take on trust. And I imagine that if you had heard of either Michel Foucault or (perish the thought) P.G. Wodehouse, whatever piquancy there might be in the idea, fundamental to the series *A Life in Letters*, of their engaging in correspondence upon the meaning of life would somehow evaporate.

It is also noticeable that many of his characters look the same,

whether they are alleged to be Foucault or Rorschach or merely the anonymous mortal in *Down Near the Railway a Man's Possessions are Carried Away by Termites*. Could they all be self-portraits, or is this merely another mystery left for us to fathom? On the credit side, it must be said that Campbell paints with considerable verve and a rather bilious sense of colour, and sometimes his paintings make a satisfactory pattern without too much esoteric reference.

Portrait of an Island Splitting, for instance, though it too has a very elaborate programme, is quite a dramatic picture even without Darwin and much less raucous

than most. Campbell is a force, undeniably, but whether a force one would wish unreservedly to submit to remains to be seen.

Another Scottish painter, of an older generation, is just along the street at the Albemarle Gallery we have more than 30 recent paintings by Craigie Aitchison on show until May 1, with earlier works to be seen on request. By and large, it may be better not to make the request, not because the earlier works are notably better or worse, but because they are virtually indistinguishable. Aitchison is a superb painter, with an almost painfully acute sense of colour which he may have inherited from the Scottish Colourists but has

made wholly his own. Virtually any one of the pictures in his current show would be a joy to own, and, quite rightly and understandably, almost all of them have already been bought. But he does desperately need some new subject-matter.

The endless series of crucifixions and bare formalized landscapes, with an animal which might be a dog or might be a sheep somewhere in the middle distance, as well as pictures which combine the two motifs, can become wearisome finally to even the biggest fan, and the same no doubt goes for the alternate series of portrait heads of black men. Presumably the recurrent motifs have some sort of autobiographical significance, but, without the key, paintings often lack the intensity which might make them more than just very decorative.

Paul Neagu is not by any stretch of the imagination Scottish - he is in point of fact Romanian - but several of the works included or hinted at in his two current shows seem to have important Scottish connections. In particular, it is one of his fantastic projects (documented in the drawing show *In-form-ings*, at the Curwen Gallery until May 2) to place enormous versions of a group similar to the sculptures shown (more modestly sized) at the Serpentine Gallery until May 10 on the Isle of Mull to form a sort of psychic power-station. At least, I presume that is more or less what he means by the term "Catalytic Stations", though the artist's statements obfuscate rather than clarify.

Some of the drawings are rather attractive in themselves, but I cannot find the finished sculptures very enthralling. Maybe they would look different marching across Mull.

John Russell Taylor

Playing with mirrors

Curiosity brought me to Radio 3's Theatre of the Absurd season. Curiosity and a certain amount of endurance has seen me through the four to date of its five plays: Adamov's *Ping Pong*; Ionesco's *Victims of Duty*; Albee's *The American Dream*; and Saunders's *Barnes*. These have all been new productions. The last play, Pinter's *A Slight Ache*, in Guy Vassan's classic version, can be heard tonight.

From one point of view it is a job to see what these five works have in common that allows them to be broadcast under one banner. Each bears the stamp of its author's individuality and maybe of his nationality as well. The French are critical and argumentative; the Americans into hostile interpersonal relationships; the British balancing on the fringes of domestic force. But there is one thing that unites all five, which is their strong affinity for a Radio 3 - indeed a Third Programme - type of radio. To listen this past fortnight has been like moving back through a time-lock to a period when the network saw it as an obligation to be at the sharp end of dramatic innovation.

RADIO

But there is another, more negative, side to that affinity, for the four plays I have heard - and this might not apply so much to the Pinter - also belong to radio in the sense that they would be less, or even less, outside it. Their method is to take a way of looking at or thinking about something - life as an attempt to work a pinball machine (Adamov); or as a kind of detective fiction (Ionesco); and to work through it like a set of exercises. To do this means to ignore virtually all but that aspect of writing a play: playwright as storyteller, as explorer and analyst of character, even if you like as dramatist - all these take a back seat or no seat at all.

So what is left? It would be extremely unobservant to maintain that *The American Dream*, for example, does not reflect back at its audience a perfectly tenable picture of ways in which people behave, but if the play is a mirror it is a distorting one, grossly exaggerating that behaviour in one way while filtering out its

other facets more or less completely. So it is not long before the listener becomes aware that what he or she is hearing is unidimensional and indeed monotonous. A viewpoint is established in the first few minutes. For that space of time it may be interesting, but then continues for however long the play takes, dominating it like the drone of a bagpipe on which the characters have either failed altogether or at best utter intermittent strangled squeaks.

Other recent drama has been less resolutely bound to radio, although it would be hard to imagine Neil McKay's *The Prickly Bush* (Radio 4, Wednesday) in any other medium. This however was because of the author's decision to derive his title and his story from a folk-song and to resort liberally and imaginatively to the use of flashback and interior voice. By this means he was able with some economy to penetrate the five relationships of difficult Julie's difficult life - mother, father, two sisters and lover - and to show that only the last, however fearless, could take her for herself and save her from despair at the prickly bush of cancer and the gallows-tree of death.

Ken Blakson's *The Gospel According to Judas* (Radio 4, Monday, repeated Saturday) used radio rather oddly to create an impression of Jerusalem, under siege in AD 70 by the Romans, apparently inhabited by all of five people - which happened to be the size of the cast. The play's thesis was that Judas Iscariot did not hang himself, as reported by his detractors, but survived to a good age in obscurity as physician and bunter of the dead. Did he betray Jesus? Apparently yes, but only because the role of mystic and teacher, promoted with such suspicious unanimity by the said detractors, gave way before the end to ambitions as military messiah and saviour of his nation.

David Wade

CONCERTS

LPO/
López-Cobos
Festival Hall/
Radio 3

For a work that Schubert composed after his Ninth Symphony, the Mass in E flat is surprisingly variable in quality as well as modest in scope. Jesús López-Cobos seemed to think it merited only the most straightforward approach from the London Philharmonic Choir and Orchestra in Sunday's broadcast concert, with the result that moments of memorable musical character were few and far between.

The modest musical scope was presumably dictated by the resources of the suburban Vienna church for whose music society it was first composed. The tenor duo of Philip Langridge and Charles Daniels were joined by Rosemary Hardy to make an affecting trio at "Et incarnatus est", but Ann Murray and John Shirley-Quirk had little to do except blend acceptably in the subsequent quartet setting of the "Benedictus" and briefly in "Agnus Dei".

The choir, however, were for the most part in notably good voice for an expressive opening "Kyrie" and forceful attack on the following "Gloria". The sopranos hardened their tone under pressure in the later stages of the "Credo", where Schubert's wonderful single-word setting of "crucifixus", compared with its indifferent counterpart just afterwards at "resurrexit", illustrates the changing quality of his musical invention, the patchiness not helped by the conductor's slowish tempos.

He nevertheless obtained a decent orchestral response in phrasing and detail, as also in Mahler's *Kindertotenlieder*, which allowed Mr Shirley-Quirk a bigger solo opportunity at the start of the programme.

Noël Goodwin



López-Cobos: straightforward

of solo initiative was Peter Cropper's marvellously wistful account of the second movement's "gypsy improvisation" for the violin.

Neither of the recital's other works quite reached this level of excellence, partly because of small but persistent intonation problems. Brahms's B flat sextet was possibly included because its Andante, another Romantic-style set of variations, offers a more ardently Romantic parallel to the Haydn slow movement played earlier. With the viola player Philip de Groote making up the six, the glorious sonorities were milked impressively, and Brahms's majestic momentum was only intermittently strained by over-zealous attack. That characteristic, however, caused more difficulties in Mendelssohn's A major Quintet.

Richard Morrison

William Moersch
Purcell Room

A surprising array of contemporary music awaits any musicians who take up the marimba as their solo instrument. There will be no need for transcriptions when the choice of original compositions extends to substantial solos by such figures as Richard Rodney Bennett or Jacob Druckman. For this, gratitude should go to the American marimba-player William Moersch, who has built up the repertoire by commissioning new pieces over the last 10 years.

Although it is essentially a percussive instrument, the marimba is suited to far more than rhythm alone. In his *After Syntex II*, a set of variations based on Debussy's flute solo, Bennett shows how the instrument can create tone-colours of impressionist delicacy, while the opening of Andrew Thomas's *Melina* takes harmony as its prime mode of expression with four-part chords full of mystery.

Each of these qualities was brought convincingly into play by Druckman's *Reflections on the Nature of Water*, the strongest of the works on offer. This piece has a quick flow of ideas, organized coherently and here vividly projected.

Also well worth hearing were two works for marimba and tape. *Termon Counterpoint* by Steve Reich is an attractive transcription from flute made by Moersch. But Martin Wesley-Smith's *For Marimba and Tape* is an original composition which sets up a lively dialogue between marimba and assorted electronic effects with a brilliant succession of interesting new sounds.

Richard Fairman

THEATRE

The Hole in the
Top of the World
Orange Tree,
Richmond

In Australia maps are available that show the Antarctic at the top of the world and the continents upside-down - except that this arrangement is just as geographically proper as the familiar one, i.e. opposite viewpoints each have something going for them. This I take to be one of the points Fay Weldon is making in her intelligent and witty play, a tussle between the sexes and the generations, fought out with the civilized weapons of truth-telling tempered by irony.

Matt is a scientist, "a near-miss Nobel Prize winner", who rationally considers the continent of his wife's emotional outbursts. Simone reacts to his calm with explosions of rehearsed abuse. Fay Weldon is in no danger of writing a schematic piece; the cerebral Matt is brimful of emotions though Simone's rational exploits are harder to isolate. This is no male dig at her feminism; an emphasized fact of her character is a need

for some mate. Matt, his cool, young colleague, and Simone's ludicrously inept young lover all in their various ways want the mate they happen to be with at the time. Only Simone crosses the globe to find one, arriving at the South Pole scientific base where Matt is measuring worrying holes in the ozone layer.

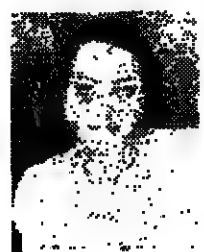
Well, perhaps the search for companions is more rational than young Nina's wish to marry a famous scientist to improve her chances of publication. The story-line bears this interpretation along with more evident ideas of menopausal rage, scientific guilt and concern for the long life of Mother Earth.

On the small stage, painted with star-maps under the furniture, Stephanie Turner's direction is crisp and sure, making points even during the scene-changes. Oliver Ford Davies creates a magisterial scientist, turning the burning-glass of his mind upon the problems of atmospheric chemistry and desirable women. Abigail Bond and Kevin Doyle are the young ones, and Ursula Jones plays Simone; her outbursts belong in a larger theatre but the author gives her a most perceptive remark about the language of the young.

Jeremy Kingston

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GLOBE THEATRE 01-437 3667

Lindsay Quartet
Elizabeth Hall

Many of the distinctive qualities that have taken the Lindsay Quartet into the top rank of European chamber ensembles are best displayed in the taut textures of Haydn - music that offers no hiding-place. The Lindsay's superbly supple performance of his C major Quartet, Op 54 No 2, offered new revelations at every turn.

Their general bowing style was light, lithe and incisive; ideal articulation for the characterful, asymmetric ideas of the opening Vivace. Their level of rapport was unimpeachable. Yet neither the lightness nor the agreed purposefulness inhibited the expression of strong emotions and rampant individuality.

The former were evident in the emphasis of the Trio's portamentos, C minor harmonies, where there was an urgent injection of pace and passion, or (at the other extreme) in the tenderness and glowing tone lavished on the violin/cello dialogues of the extraordinary Adagio finale. But the most obvious example

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Lord's declares with a day of records

Tax men leaving service for high salaries

leader of the G.L.C. The Audience was quick to comment on the attack. Mr David Alton, Liberal chief whip and MP for Mossley Hill, said: "The Labour Party is starting to come apart at the seams". But Labour Party sources

Nevertheless, it was warmly welcomed by Mr Bryan Gould, Labour's campaign co-ordinator, who said it firmly dismissed any ideas of black manifestos or selective support for candidates.

Cricket flannel: A linen commemorative handkerchief depicting the 19th-century cricket ground at Lord's, London, with the text 'The Cricket Ground, Lord's, 1868'.

Such was the interest generated by this once-in-a-double-century opportunity that

more acute as the disparity in house prices increased, he said.

1. *Chlorophyll a* and *Chlorophyll b* were determined by the method of Arar and Collins (1971) using a Shimadzu 1601 UV-Visible Spectrophotometer. The concentration of chlorophylls was expressed in $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$.

1

1

PM


YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.


	C	F		C	F
Belfast	r 11	52	Guernsey	c 8	46
Birmingham	c 10	50	Inverness	c 11	52
Birmingham	c 8	48	Jersey	c 9	48
Bristol	c 10	50	London	c 11	62
Cardiff	c 11	52	Manchester	r 10	50
Edinburgh	c 14	57	Newcastle	f 12	55
Glasgow	c 13	55	Orkney	c 10	50

MANCHESTER

Yesterday Temp: max 6 pm to 6 pm, 12°C
min 6 pm to 6 am, 6°C 14°C Rain: 24 hr to 5 pm
0.08mm Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.5hrs.



Sun rises:
6.08 am



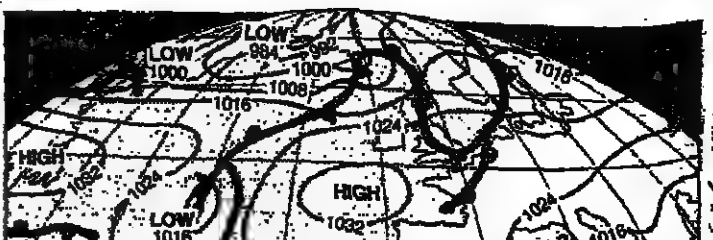
Moon sets:
6.08 am

Sun sets:
7.55 pm

Moon rises:
8.51 pm

Full Moon 3.31 am

NOON TODAY



Year	Warm toothpaste (%)	Cold toothpaste (%)	Coloured toothpaste (%)
1970	70	10	20
1980	40	20	40
1990	10	30	60

TUESDAY APRIL 14 1987

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1512.4 (-11.4)FT-SE 100
1917.1 (-19.6)Bargains
39835 (39100)USM (Datastream)
162.95 (-0.98)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.6245 (-0.0030)W German mark
2.9363 (-0.0046)Trade-weighted
72.0 (-0.1)Famous
Grouse
up 22%

Highland Distilleries, the Famous Grouse whisky group, raised half-time profits by 22 per cent to £6,123 million on a turnover up by 12 per cent to £66.3 million.

Profits were aided by strong sales of Famous Grouse in February ahead of a price increase. The brand continued its leadership in Scotland and showed further growth in England and Wales. "Exports of Famous Grouse were marginally ahead while other sectors of the business reported satisfactory results," the company said yesterday. The interim dividend is being lifted to 0.68p a share from 0.61p last time.

Blue Circle up

Blue Circle Industries' pretax profits rose by 9 per cent to £127 million last year on turnover which increased from £947 million to £1.1 billion. A final dividend of 17p is recommended, making a total of 23p, against 21p.

Profits jump

Morgan Crucible's pretax profits jumped 33 per cent to £24.8 million for the year to end-December, on sales up 15 per cent to £242 million. The dividend was raised 0.7p to 9.2p.

Custom sold

Lambert Horwarth has conditionally agreed to acquire Custom, a manufacturer and distributor of luggage and briefcases, for about £1.7 million.

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	2332.24 (-8.54)
Dow Jones	2332.24 (-8.54)
London	2291.84 (-297.05)
Hong Kong	2708.94 (-57.47)
Amsterdam	2251.1 (-2.5)
Sydney	1799.0 (-11.5)
Frankfurt	1782.9 (-42.2)
Brussels	4589.92 (+5.09)
Paris	447.4 (-1.9)
Zurich	534.10 (-4.8)
London: FT	1917.1 (-19.6)
FT: Gilt	89.89 (+0.1)
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MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISER	800p (+22)
Colson/Gold	1023p (+19)
RTZ	940p (+28)
Poseidon	723p (+48)
Kellogg	485p (+30)
Ulster TV	137p (+17)
Eucalyptus Pulp	1650p (+300)
Auk & Woborg	255p (+12)
Yule Cato	870p (+12)
Geevor Tin Mines	68p (+13)
Thames Mining	64p (+14)
AJ Worthington	47p (+14)

FALLS:	
Glaxo	1448p (-57p)
Norros	395p (-41p)
Williams	773p (-14p)
Conder Group	175p (-15p)
Taylor Woodrow	324p (-11p)
APV	263p (-11p)
Richmans	258p (-15p)

Prices are as at 4pm

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base:	10%
3-month interbank 9 1/4	9 1/4%
3-month Treasury Bill	5.96-5.95%
30-year bonds	9 1/4-9 1/2%

CURRENCIES

London:		New York:	
£/\$	1.6245	£/\$	1.6245
DM/\$	2.9363	DM/\$	2.9363
SwF/\$	2.4294	SwF/\$	2.4294
FF/\$	163.2	FF/\$	163.2
Yen/\$	231.45	Yen/\$	231.45
Index	72.0	Index	72.0
ECU	10.706221	SDR	10.795483

GOLD

London Fixing:	
AM \$436.50 pm \$435.90	
close \$437.00-437.50 (\$288.75-289.25)	
New York:	
Comex \$436.10-436.60	

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (May) pm \$17.70 (\$17.90)	
* Denotes latest trading price	

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City analysts criticize low returns on investments

Glaxo sits on
£712m cash

By Colin Campbell

Glaxo Holdings, whose 1981 launch of the drug Zantac transformed its financial position and made it an international favourite among pharmaceutical companies, yesterday ran into criticism that it was making only miserably thin returns on its massive cash pile.

Glaxo's net liquid funds at December 31 stood at £712 million compared with £385 million a year earlier, and £480 million at the end of its June 1986 financial year.

However, the net return on these funds was only £24 million a year ago, and £20 million a year ago.

Mr Paul Girolami, the chairman, facing investment analysts at the briefing on the group's interim results to December 31, admitted: "We might have to do something about the cash pile."

Mr Ian White, the pharmaceutical analyst at Greenwell Montagu Securities, said it would be a pity if the City pushed Glaxo into making an investment just for

the sake of it, adding that the cash pile would prove very useful when the right opportunities came along.

Of the group's gross funds totalling £855 million, £828 million (compared with £437 million a year ago) was invested in British gilts and US bonds. In the interim period Glaxo had to make a £2 million provision to adjust certain investments to their market value.

The group's interim results showing pretax profits of £376 million against £260 million, equivalent to a 44.6 per cent increase, on sales which rose from £647 million to £875 million, were below some of the market's best expectations.

There was also disappointment that the interim dividend was only increased by 1p to 5p after such a strong rise in net earnings.

The market reaction, not helped by a lowering of some year-end forecasts, saw the shares fall by 72p to £14.31. But Glaxo has been a success, even after yesterday's price slide, the group had a market capitalization of £10.6 billion. Glaxo will formally apply to the New York and Tokyo stock exchanges this week for

a listing of its shares and, if approved, expects to be quoted in both centres by June. Several years ago, Glaxo shares were quoted in Paris.

Mr Girolami said Glaxo was "playing its part" in the fight against Aids, spending about £4 million in this area on research, and was continuing working towards discovering another Zantac, the anti-ulcer treatment which was the world's first drug to top sales of \$1 billion.

Anti-peptic ulcers, principally Zantac, accounted for 47 per cent of sales in the six months ended December with Zantac accounting for sales of £414 million.

Glaxo spent £67 million on research and development in the six months to end-December, compared with £52 million in the first half of the previous year. The spend will continue to increase, Mr Girolami said.

Analysts are generally expecting Glaxo's year end profits to turn out at between £775 million and £800 million compared with £611.6 million reported for the year ended June 1986.

Tempus, page 22



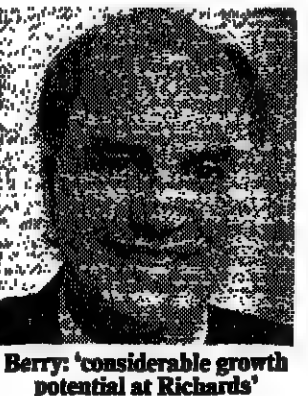
Paul Girolami: "money is not burning a hole in our pocket"

Fifth US purchase
for Blue Arrow

By Michael Tate

Blue Arrow, the recruitment agency group built up by Mr Tony Berry, has made its fifth acquisition in America within the past six months with the \$29 million (£18.1 million) purchase of the Richards Companies, a headhunting group operating in New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Illinois and Texas.

The move brings Blue Arrow's recent spending in the US to about \$60 million. It



Berry: "considerable growth potential at Richards"

has completed the first phase in its plan to become a national employment agency group in a market where salaries and wages two-and-a-half times the British national average offer exciting profits potential.

Mr Berry yesterday described Richards as a leader in the field of executive search in the US, with considerable growth potential. It made profits of \$3.6 million in 1986.

Blue Arrow is paying half the purchase price in cash and the rest in Blue Arrow shares, valued at 60p for this deal. Mr Berry Nathanson, the Richards founder, and his co-founders, have agreed to keep all the 1.36 million shares they receive for three months, and at least half for a year.

Blue Arrow, capitalized at £3 million on its arrival on the USM in the summer of 1984, is now worth £260 million. Profits in 1984-85 were £2.16 million, jumping to £8.72 million last year.

Mowlem beats its
forecast at £30m

By Alexandra Jackson

John Mowlem has beaten the forecast of £29 million made at the time of its bid for the SGB Group last year. Yesterday it reported pretax profits of £30.1 million for the twelve months to the end of December 1986 on turnover up from £414 million to £636 million.

Earnings per share of 34.8p were undiluted by acquisitions. A final dividend of 11.5p was declared making a total of 16p for the year.

Mr Philip Beck, the chairman of Mowlem, is optimistic about the current year although he admits that the group's exposure to the City of

London could prove to be a liability if a sizeable "fall out" was caused by the Big Bang.

Mr Robert Lister, the construction analyst at Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the stockbroker, is expecting 1987 pretax profits of £43 million.

Mowlem is announcing a £50 million sterling commercial paper programme with a Eurodollar option to provide the group with greater flexibility in financing its debt.

The liquidation of the Glasgow Stockholders' Trust after its acquisition by Mowlem in January 1987 raised £54 million net.

Japan surplus at record

By Richard Owen and David Smith

The European Economic Community yesterday gave a warning to Britain that its trade surplus with Western Europe is becoming intolerable. The warning followed the release of figures showing a rise in the surplus to a record £2.13 billion (£1.31 billion) last month.

EEC officials said the commission is preparing to raise tariffs against a range of Japanese products if any attempt is made to dump in Europe products kept out of America by Washington's imminent trade sanctions against Japan. The US has said it will impose 100 per cent import duties on selected Japanese products from Friday.

The commission said it would also consider action within Gatt (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) to force Japan to open up its markets. This was among the points drawn up by trade officials from the 12 countries at a meeting in Brussels last Friday.

Community action against Japan - not least at the

insistence of Britain, which is taking its own measures - will be discussed by EEC foreign ministers on April 27. But anti-Japanese measures will not be fully reviewed until the following foreign ministers' session at the end of May. The officials pointed out that this gives Japan six weeks in which to reconsider its barriers against EEC imports.

The EEC is "demanding" "early and adequate measures" by Japan. A provisional "hit list" of Japanese products against which Europe is ready to raise tariffs includes calculators, tape recorders, power tools, video recorders and photographic equipment.

Meanwhile in London, an analysis published yesterday states that the huge current account surplus in Japan, which is at the heart of the present trade disputes with the US and Britain, will decline only slowly.

The Amex Bank Review says that there are several reasons why the current

account surplus, \$86 billion (£53 billion) last year, is set to remain large.

These include the likelihood of repeated "J-curve" effects, whereby each rise in the yen produces a short-term balance of payments improvement, and the prospect of rising interest income from abroad as Japan's stock of overseas assets builds up.

Amex Bank projections suggest that Japan's net external assets, currently \$177 billion, will approach \$500 billion by 1990 and could be more than \$900 billion by 1995.

Amex predicts a further rise in the yen in the immediate future, before the Japanese government accepts the need for a greater fiscal stimulus.

A separate article in the Review, by Mr Makoto Kuroda, of Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry, concludes that Japan's trade surplus is mainly due to the 1980s rise, and subsequent fall, for the dollar, as well as the sharp fall in oil and other commodity prices.

Comment, page 23

Warring oil
groups' shares
marked down

From a Correspondent, New York

Texaco yesterday won a small battle in its war with Pennzoil in a Texas courtroom after its filing for protection from creditors under America's federal bankruptcy laws on Sunday in New York.

The two sides clashed again in Houston where a judge was supposed to set a bond to be paid by Texaco while the company appealed against the earlier \$11 billion awarded to Pennzoil.

Under Texas law, Texaco was ordered to pay some or all of the money into an escrow account as a sign of good faith while it appealed against the decision.

But yesterday's hearing lasted just four minutes. The judge asked lawyers from both sides whether Texaco's filing for bankruptcy changed the situation. Texaco replied that it did and so the judge adjourned the hearing and declared that all further matters concerning the case would have to be handled by the bankruptcy court in New York.

Later, outside the courtroom, there were angry exchanges between the lawyers. Texaco said it had offered several settlements which Pennzoil turned down because of its greed. But Mr Joe Jamail, chief counsel for Pennzoil, said the offers had been unreasonably low - \$2 billion and \$3 billion. He said \$4 billion or \$5 billion would be "negotiable."

Pennzoil came off worst on the stock market yesterday.

Market analysts are saying that Texaco will come out on top because of its manoeuvre, but Pennzoil's lawyers accuse Texaco of betraying its shareholders just to avoid paying out the money.

Both stocks were down on the New York Stock Exchange

but it was Pennzoil which fell the furthest. After a delayed opening, Pennzoil was down 12 1/2% at 79 1/2, while Texaco fell only 3 1/2 to 28 1/4. Mr Sanford Margoshes, an analyst at Shearson Lehman Brothers, said: "I expect Texaco stock may drop down to 26 but that will be the low. Once people realize Texaco has bought itself 15-18 months to try the Pennzoil case on its merits, the stock will go back up. There's no sign the company is in any difficulty."

The British arm of the Texaco empire will continue to operate unaffected on the forerunners, at the refinery and in the North Sea, despite its parent's move into technical bankruptcy in the US (David Young, Energy Correspondent, writes).

Texaco UK is a wholly owned subsidiary of the operating arm of Texaco in the US - it is the financial division in the US which has applied for bankruptcy - and is in the process of improving its profitability and market share.

Texaco UK employs 2,800 in Britain. It has a modern refinery, a chain of 1,500 recently refurbished filling stations and substantial holdings in the North Sea.

Many of its best sites were acquired when it took over the British retail chain of Chevron, itself a victim of problems with debt rescheduling.

Texaco UK said yesterday the bankruptcy application in the US should make no difference to its ability to continue operations. Its costs are paid out of income from British operations, which have consistently resulted in a payment from Texaco UK to Texaco in the US.

Getty legacy, page 23

Rise in factory prices
at lowest since 1969

By Our Economics Correspondent

Prices of manufactured goods at the factory gate rose by 3.7 per cent in the 12 months to March, the lowest rise since the present set of producer price statistics began in 1974. The drop in the 12-month rate of output price inflation, from 4.2 per cent in March, was largely due to the Chancellor's decision not to raise duties on alcohol and tobacco in the Budget.

The 3.7 per cent rise, which suggests that pressures on retail prices will be subdued, was the lowest on any figures, including the old wholesale price series, since August 1969.

Last month, output prices rose by 0.3 per cent. Industry's raw material and fuel costs fell by 1.1 per cent, mainly due to a seasonal drop in industrial electricity tariffs. Compared with a year ago, costs were down by 0.7 per cent. In February, prices were 2.8 per cent down on February 1986.

The pound's strength should help produce only modest rises in industry's costs, although firmer oil prices and higher prices for some domestically produced materials could produce increases.

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STOCK MARKET

Caution sends shares lower

By Cliff Feltham

Caution was the byword yesterday as shares drifted lower across the board. There were falls in most sectors, although a recovery towards the close of trading lifted prices above their worst levels.

The FT-SE 100 index, which at one time was down by 22.2 points, finished the session 19.6 lower at 1,917.1, while the FT 30 Share index closed 11.4 down at 1,512.4.

Government stocks maintained a firm undertone throughout, showing gains of up to 2% in some cases.

Gold had another good session, finishing \$5.50 higher at the close at \$437.50, its best level since last October.

The demand reflected the concern over the weakness of the dollar after the inconclusive meetings of finance ministers in Washington and fears of a trade war with Japan. However, on foreign exchange markets, it was generally more subdued ahead of the US trade figures for February, due out today.

The great upward march of Glaxo came to an abrupt halt after profits turned out to be at the lower end of estimates. The shares responded with a 72p plunge to 1,431p. Elsewhere in the sector, Beecham came back 6p at 490p, while the other heavyweight, Wellcome, gave up just 1p at 395p.

Blue Circle was good for a 27p jump to 805p after a profit improvement. Dealers feel that the benefits of the reorganization should start to flow through strongly in the current year.

Firm metal prices helped Consolidated Goldfields move 19p ahead at 1,023p, while elsewhere Posidon rose by 48p to 723p.

Norcor plunged 41p to 395p after the announcement

by the bidder. Williams Holdings, that it will not be raising its takeover terms. Williams shares came back 28p to 757p.

Ward White, the Payless DIY and Halfords chain, attracted support from figures due today and the shares ended 5p higher at 331p.

Oils were mixed. BP came back 6p at 849p, British Petroleum improved 1p at 246p, while little Century Oils - recently back in the bid spotlight - sank 7p to 178p.

Banks were out of favour with Barclays falling 9p to 488p, Lloyds losing 14p at 458p and NatWest falling 11p to 548p.

The biggest rise of the day was at AJ Worthington, a small Staffordshire textile company. The shares went against the market trend, jumping from 33p to 48p at

the close. The company, which is a subsidiary of the USM investment company run by Scottish accountant Bill Hislop, remains in buoyant mood after its big jump in earnings for last year.

More acquisitions are likely and the shares at 248p, down just 1p yesterday, have a great deal of potential.

one stage, before coming back to 45p at the close.

But Mr Philip Worthington, a director, was quick to dismiss market talk that a bidder might be about to pounce.

He said: "This happens to us once every three years and is simply because it is our turn again to be featured in a tip-sheet for penny stocks. There is nothing we can do about this sort of thing, so we simply try to ignore it. But I can say that there is nothing going on that we know of, other than a



mention in this publication to account for the rise in the share price."

Shares in Worthington are fairly tightly held - a company controlled by Mr Sidney Friedland, the chairman, speaks for 48 per cent of the equity.

Bejam, the food-freezer specialist, was the centre of bid speculation after the strength of the shares over the last couple of sessions. Yesterday, they rose by another 3p to 173p.

But Mr John Apthorp, the chairman, said he was unaware of any likely bid action. He commented: "I think the strength of the shares is more due to a re-rating than anything else."

Bejam is an old hand at dealing with bid speculation and, like a number of other situations, the market believes it is more a question of when a bid arrives than if one comes at all.

Argyll has been tipped in the past, although the favourite would be Iceland Frozen Foods - if only it could arrive at satisfactory terms and escape a reference to the Monopolies Commission.

The hyperactive Mr Tony Berry, chairman of the Blue Arrow job-finding agency, was back on the acquisition trail

again, this time paying just over £18 million for a group of executive-search and management consultancy in the United States. The shares, a big success on the stock market in recent months, digested the news with a 10p fall at 669p.

In the same sector, AGB Research failed to hold a 3p improvement and came back to an unchanged 209p, while Fitch and Company gave up 7p at 358p. Extel, with Mr Maxwell's stake still waiting to find a new home now that he has switched his attentions elsewhere, lost 1p at 469p. Reuters, tipped as a share to watch by the Japanese, was 3p easier at 683p.

Tottenham Hotspur celebrated its appearance in the FA Cup Final with further progress, moving to a best-ever 104p, up 2p on the day. They could go even higher.

British Vita, which has seen tremendous growth on the back of record profits for four years running from its foam, fibres and polymers business, has drifted back from its peak of 407p. But dealers remain confident that another successful year is in prospect and that the current weakness is only a hiccup. The shares have come up from 288p in

the last year and yesterday eased just 3p to 375p.

The denial of any change in shareholdings at Rothmans International, the cigarette group, wiped out most of Friday's sharp gains. The shares drifted back to 257p yesterday - a drop of 16p - but a suspicion remains that something is afoot and the shares look like remaining a nervous market for sometime.

This is not the first time Rothmans has been launched on a rollercoaster on the back of takeover talk and market men are convinced that, at some stage, either one of the main stakeholders, Rembrandt, the South African group, or Philip Morris, will make a move.

Greenwell Montagu, the broker, appears to have uncovered some possible subsidence in the building sector. It says that despite high orders

● **BROKERS ARE RAISING FULL-YEAR FORECASTS FOR STC**, the telecommunications and computer group, which has shown a huge turnaround in profits. A bullish first-quarter report is likely at the annual meeting this month. The shares, up 2p to 250p, may still not reflect its changed fortunes.

for housebuilders and buoyant conditions, business will not be as good by the autumn.

Margins will come under pressure and Greenwell estimates that the rate of profit growth currently being reported by the builders and contractors will not be repeated this year.

Barratt Developments managed a 1p improvement at 165p, Bryant Holdings eased 4p at 157p. Costain was 2p adrift at 540p, Federated Housing - which the broker

believes has been above its "buying zone" - slid back 5p at 211p.

Some sharp falls were seen in the hotel sector. Kennedy Brooks slipped by 8p to 320p. London Park came back 7p at 800p and Queens Moat eased 3p at 77p. Trusthouse Forte, the shares of which had been strongly tipped to make a major breakthrough this year, also shed 2p at 221p.

Stores had a mixed day. Boots was off 1p at 279p. Burtens held steady at 282p. Combined English drifted 1p at 260p, while Etam - still the subject of some bid speculation - improved by 2p at 234p.

● **FRANKFURT:** The Commerzbank index dropped by 42.2 points to 1,752.9.

Shares slumped, but ended above intra-session lows, as investors were shaken by gloomy economic forecasts.

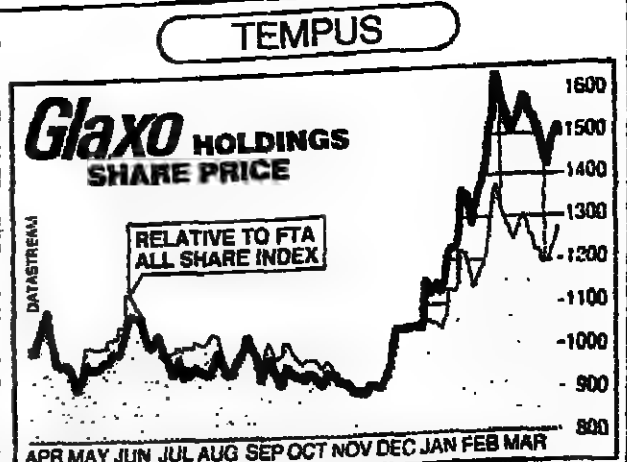
Stocks opened with steep declines as blue chips such as Daimler-Benz fell by more than 3 per cent in response to the dollar's weakness and worries about higher US interest rates.

● **TOKYO:** The Nikkei Dow index slipped to 22,919.54 from Friday's 23,216.59.

A setback for the ruling Liberal Democratic Party in local elections and an increasing sense of caution by investors following a recent sharp upturn combined to send shares tumbling in light trading.

● **HONG KONG:** The Hang Seng index slipped from 2,766.41 to 2,708.94.

Selling, driven by unconfirmed reports, pushed most shares sharply lower in light trading. Stockbrokers said a mixture of local and overseas selling was responsible for the declines.



Glaxo samples City dismay

Glaxo has an embarrassment of riches. First it was Zantac, the world's first drug to top the \$1 billion sales level. Now it is the cash pile, a respectable £712 million at the end of December compared with £385 million a year earlier, but on which the net investment return is a mere £24 million. That was a good £10 million shy of most expectations.

If Glaxo were as good at cash management as it is with medicines - there was a small provision against gilts - bond investments to adjust them to market values - the results would really sing.

Pretax profits in the six months to December 31, at £376 million against £260 million, were flattered by £20 million due to exchange rates, and not as high as some had expected. As it is, exchange rate benefits have by now been eliminated because of recent currency movements and may be negative by the year end. The trading margin improved from 33.9 per cent to 38 per cent.

If there is an area of disappointment about yesterday's results, it must be the interim dividend, raised by 1p (or 25 per cent) to 3p a share on the back of a 46 per cent rise in net earnings.

Glaxo could make up for the dividend disappointment by the year end, meanwhile Zantac is still a market winner, increasing its sales in the six months by 45 per cent to £414 million. On a geographical spread, North America entrenched its position as the group's largest market with a 46 per cent sales increase to £334 million.

In Britain, there was a 22 per cent sales growth to £111 million, and with Japanese interests coming into their own and more than offsetting difficulties in India and Italy, Glaxo's share of profits from associates doubled.

The group did not announce any significant discoveries yesterday. The shares, after running well ahead of the results, fell 72p to £14.31.

Year-end profit estimates have been shaved back from more than £800 million to £800 million flat or even £775 million, which would still represent growth over the previous full-year's profits of £611.6 million.

In the longer term, the rating, with a price earnings ratio of 20.8, is deserved, and fresh investment interest from New York and Tokyo can be expected. But until the son of Zantac is born, the shares best rate as a hold.

Morgan Crucible

When the US Union Carbide Corporation sold its electrical carbon business to Morgan Crucible for £23 million last December, it may not quite have realized what it was giving away, according to Morgan Crucible's managing director, Dr Bruce Farmer.

For, among the assets and businesses acquired, was the blueprint for a process which he says will revolutionize carbon production.

Morgan Crucible is carrying out tests to optimize the process with a view to building a pilot plant in 1988, and Dr Farmer believes that the potential for profits is enormous.

Not only is the process cheaper, but the capital cost per plant is only about £500,000 compared with £5 million-£10 million for a conventional plant.

Carbon production accounts for 23 per cent of the group's sales and 29 per cent of operating profit. Morgan Crucible considers that it has

about 30 per cent of the world carbon market, a share which it could increase, or make significantly more profitable when the new process comes into full production.

Sales in 1986 were £242 million, an increase of 15 per cent on the previous year, while pretax profits rose 33 per cent to £24.8 million, the group said yesterday. The results, which were in line with market expectations, reflect the group's drive to reduce its dependence on declining industries and its steady pursuit of geographical diversification.

This year, pretax profits should rise to more than £30 million, leaving the shares on a multiple of about 14. The long-term prospects look exciting.

Blue Circle

Presentation is everything, so Blue Circle Industries' decision to treat as extraordinary 90 per cent of its 1986 redundancy and reorganization costs did wonders for sentiment.

The respectable pretax figure increase pushed the shares up 27p to 805p, against the market trend. It is noteworthy that the £39.5 million extraordinary item included a charge of £4.8 million for staff retraining.

If the reorganization costs had been treated differently, and if the doubling of property profits to £8.1 million and the £5.6 million pension fund holiday were taken into account, the shares might not have reacted so positively.

Quibbles apart, it all appears to be in a good cause. BCI is working hard to make its British operation genuinely competitive, so it can try to hold its own in a world unprotected by a price cartel.

During 1987, a further seven of BCI's nine remaining plants should convert to the flexible working practices that have led to a doubling in productivity and a halving of labour costs at the group's modernized plants at Causton in Staffordshire and Dunbar in East Lothian.

Overseas, BCI is reducing the debt of many operations. Several foreign interests have been sold, and further streamlining of the group's non-American interests is expected.

The cash thus realized is flowing back to Britain. Given BCI's burden of unrelieved Advance Corporation Tax, an acquisition at home looks increasingly likely. Moreover, the balance sheet is to be strengthened imminently by a £60 million-plus Eurosterling convertible issue.

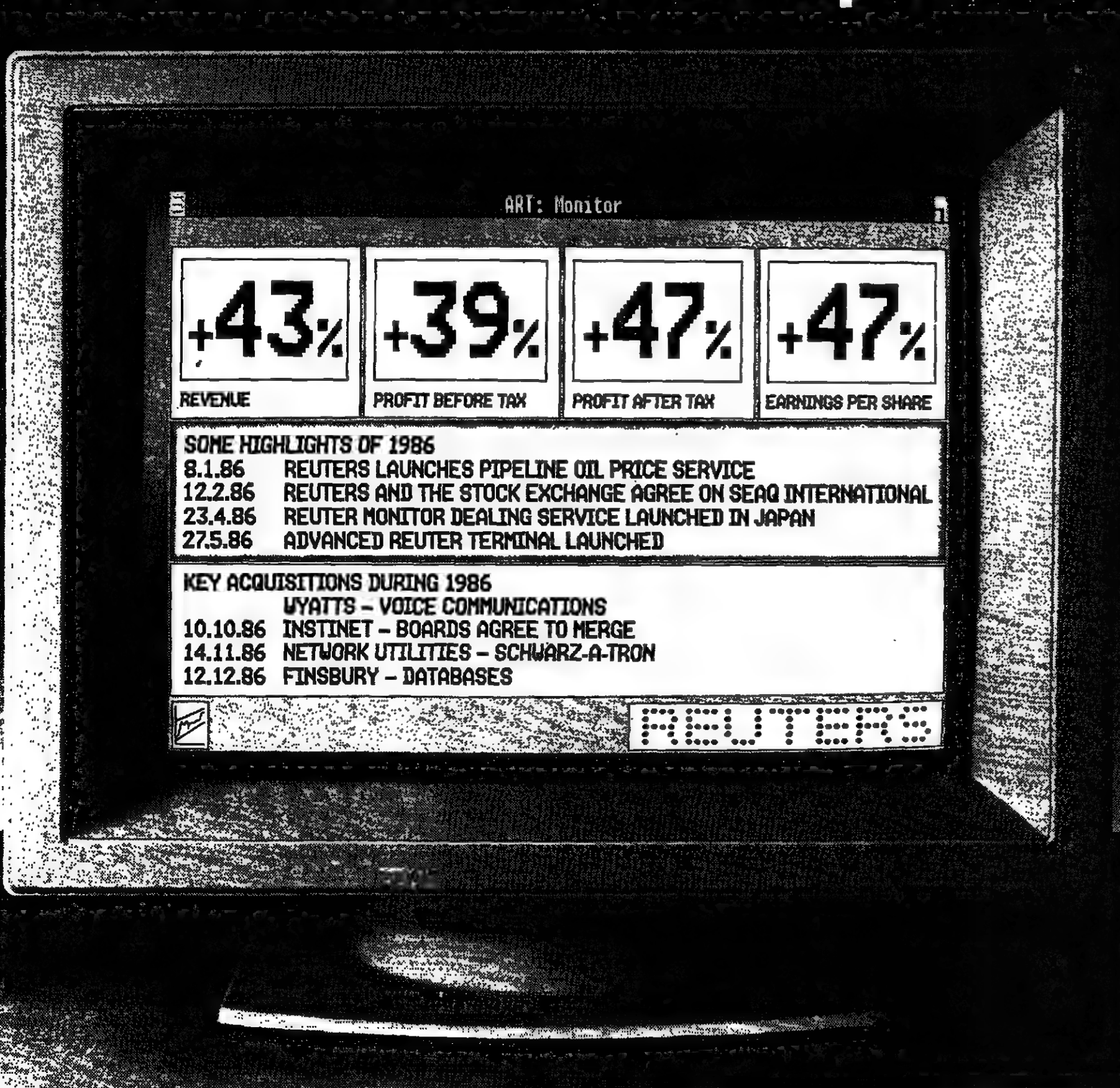
However, the structure of the domestic market makes it hard for BCI to buy in a closely related field; in any case, many of the obvious choices have already been snapped up. Residential property may be an attractive proposition since BCI is already active in this field.

More than 40 per cent of US trading profits came from non-cement activities. Both the concrete and cement markets are experiencing less buoyant demand, caused by the US economic situation and bad weather. However, the 1987 budget is for at least maintained profits.

The new management team moving into position at Blue Circle has definite ideas per plant is only about £500,000 compared with £5 million-£10 million for a conventional plant.

Meantime, on a prospective price/earnings ratio of under nine times, the shares look more enticing than for some time.

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Company	Volume '000	Company	Volume '000	Company	Volume '000
Allied-Lyons	1,100	English China	80	Rank Org	79
Amrad	2,800	Fisons	143	Rank Hovis	1,100
Argyll	975	Gen Accident	389	Radcliff	394
ASDA-MFI	1,200	GEC	11,000	Reed Int	877
Asa Br Foods	423	Glaxo	4,000	Reed Int	172
BET	221	Globe IT	631	Reed Int	241
BTR	3,700	Granada	990	Reed Int	241
BAT	3,300	Grand Met	1,000	Reed Int	241
Barrat	1,800	GLS A	183	Reed Int	241
Beecham	424	GNE	235	Reed Int	241
Blue Circle	2,000	GOC	876	Reed Int	241
BOC	189	Guinness	3,200	Reed Int	241
BPC	4,500	Hawker Siddeley	274	Reed Int	241
BPC Ind	302	Hilldown	2,600	Reed Int	241
BPC	302	Imp Chem Ind	897	Reed Int	241
Br Aerospace	888	Imp Cont Gas	735	Reed Int	241
Br Airways	6,200	Jaguar	532	Reed Int	241
Br Comm	670	Ladbrokes	1,200	Reed Int	241
Br Gas	6,400	Land Securities	602	Reed Int	241
Br Petroleum	3,000	Legal & Gen	885	Reed Int	241
Br Telecom	4,200	Lloyds	555	Reed Int	241
Brit	3,800	Lothrio	744	Reed Int	241
Brit	550	Mark B Spencer	5,500	Reed Int	241
Buran	2,400	MEPC	584	Reed Int	241
Cable & Wireless	3,000	Midland	1,000	Reed Int	241
Cadbury Schwepp	1,800	Nat West	554	Reed Int	241
Costa Vita	369	P & O Dtd	1,300	Reed Int	241
Com Union	1,100	Pearson	2,000	Reed Int	241
Cons Goldfields	2,100	Pollington Bros	795	Reed Int	241
Consolidated	548	Plessey	2,400	Reed Int	241
De Corp	2,600	Racal	482	Reed Int	241
De Corp	2,600	Racal	482	Reed Int	241
				Reed Int	241

Battle of the oil titans puts Getty's great legacy at risk

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Financial markets yesterday anxiously waited for the next legal chapter to unfold in the battle of the US oil titans. Texaco is fighting Pennzoil in the largest bankruptcy proceedings in American history.

The surprise announcement on Sunday by Texaco, the eighth largest American company, that it would enter into Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings was seen as a clever delaying tactic in a three-year legal duel over the rightful ownership of the Getty Oil company.

It is an \$11 billion (£7 billion) corporate saga which combines all the elements of a good soap opera: big oil concerns, powerful personalities, well known in the Texas oil patch, highly priced legal talent and squabbling members of the Getty family. The Gettys are the heirs of Mr J Paul Getty, the late oil billionaire who in the 1950s was regarded as the world's richest man.

Depending on the outcome of the Texaco-Pennzoil case, much of his multi-billion-dollar legacy could be lost. Last week, there were three significant legal events which have brought the acrimonious case to the boil.

Last Monday, the US Supreme Court ruled against Texaco, invalidating a lower court ruling which had allowed the company to put up security of no more than \$1 billion while it appealed against a Texas court ruling that it must pay \$10.5 billion in damages that Texaco owed the Texas court awarded the record damages in 1985 after finding Texaco guilty of

wrongfully interfering in a merger contract between Getty Oil and Pennzoil.

After the higher court ruling, Texaco filed a court paper last Friday, saying it could not afford to post bond of \$1 billion. Then, on Sunday, after a week of unsuccessful negotiations to settle the case out of court, the company filed for protection from its creditors under the Chapter 11 statute, which allows the company to continue operating much as before. The big difference is that Pennzoil, as an unsecured creditor, is precluded from taking any action to seize Texaco's assets while the case continues on appeal through the courts.

Both companies have made bitter public statements about the bankruptcy filing. Mr James Kinnear, Texaco's president and chief executive, said: "I love this company. The board took definitive action rather than die by inches. Pennzoil has turned the knob one too many times. We were quite simply forced to make a Chapter 11 filing."

But Mr Baine Kerr, the retired Pennzoil president who was called in to act as one of the chief negotiators, countered: "They are simply trying to misuse the whole bankruptcy process."

The first effects of the bankruptcy filing were felt yesterday when the share prices of both companies plummeted.

In addition, there were indications that Texaco's operations would be seriously disrupted, a development that would hit other companies



Kinnear: Chapter 11 filing seen as a clever delaying tactic

and banks in the depressed oil industry.

Creditors and suppliers have been demanding cash payments before agreeing to enter into transactions with Texaco and banks have been re-assessing the amount of credit they will make available. Although Texaco's foreign operations are not affected by the filing, there was, none the less, concern

over the impact on the Arabian American Oil Company (Aramco), Texaco is one of the four founding members of Aramco which accounts for all of Saudi Arabia's oil production.

The fastest, cheapest way out of the bankruptcy proceedings would be a private settlement of the dispute which began in 1984.

But both companies, after a

week of intense negotiations, say this is unlikely.

Up until the eleventh hour, Pennzoil had expected to reach a private deal with Texaco.

Texaco had offered to settle the case for an estimated \$2 billion and Pennzoil had demanded a cash settlement in the \$4 billion to \$5 billion range, according to sources on both sides.

The Guinness affair

Saunders denies destroying documents

Mr Ernest Saunders, the former chairman and chief executive of Guinness, yesterday dismissed allegations in the High Court that he had ordered documents to be shredded in the early stages of the Government inquiry into the company as "completely untrue."

Mrs Margaret McGrath, who worked for Mr Saunders as his personal assistant from the time he joined Guinness in October 1981 until, he was dismissed in January, made her claims on Friday in an affidavit read out by Mr David Oliver, QC, counsel for Guinness.

Mr Philip Heslop, QC, counsel for Mr Saunders, yesterday read out his client's reply to Mrs McGrath's allegations, to Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor, at a hearing of an application by Mr Saunders and Mr Thomas Ward, a fellow Guinness director, for the discharge of "asset-freezing" orders obtained by the company on March 18.

The temporary orders froze property or assets owned by the two men up to the £5.2 million paid from Guinness into a Jersey bank last May in connection with the Distillers takeover.

Mr Saunders's new affidavit, began: "I wish to state at the outset that each and every allegation and inference that documents were destroyed or entries erased by me, or on my

instructions, are completely untrue."

He said he could only speculate as to Mrs McGrath's reasons for making the allegations but he had been advised it would be inappropriate to do so.

He had understood correctly her allegation that "it was obvious to her" part of the Distillers bid files "were going to be shredded" in December, he fully denied it.

He said the allegation that he instructed her to erase appointments he had had with Mr Meshulam Riklis, the head of Rapid American Corporation, was equally untrue.

When he was dismissed, Mr Saunders said, the atmosphere was such that he was aware that some people were willing to make trouble for him. Because he foresaw the possibility that documents would be tampered with, he took photocopies of his office diary which he gave to his solicitors, and the Department of Trade inspectors.

Although Mrs McGrath had alleged he asked her to erase all appointments with Mr Riklis, a reference survived for November 9 - "Palladium and Riklis party, Inn on the Park," Mr Saunders said.

Mrs McGrath's allegation that he asked her to erase a diary reference to an appointment with a Mr Heuberger in Zurich in November was a "complete fabrication," he

had not met Mr Heuberger since September 1984.

Nor was Mrs McGrath telling the truth when she said Mr Saunders asked her to shred two or three letters connected with Mr Heuberger.

Mr Saunders said an allegation by Mrs McGrath that he had destroyed papers relating to a Mr Peter Cooper, who ran a market research agency, was "totally unparaphrased" and "quite extraordinary."

Mr Saunders said he knew that Mrs McGrath's allegations that address book entries were cut out were untrue, but he did not have the facts, at the moment, to prove it.

Mr Heslop said Mr Saunders had brought the court action to "vindicate his name" and "refute" the allegations of dishonesty and fraud. Guinness's decision on Friday to withdraw their accusation that Mr Saunders had personally benefited from the £3 million paid into his Swiss bank account, was in part a "vindication of his position."

The judge commented that the dismissed chairman could have saved himself a great deal of money by agreeing to give Guinness an undertaking that he would not dispose of the proceeds from the sale of his house.

Commenting on Mr Saunders's claim that, after he agreed in February 1986 that the £5.2 million should be paid to Mr Ward, he took no further part in the deal, the

judge asked whether it was not "extraordinary" that it did not cross his mind that such a payment required "special consideration."

"I'm just feeling in a rather 'other worldly' way that somebody responsible for the safekeeping of the company's money would expect to have a very full idea of what was going on" from the moral point of view rather than from a legal one, the judge said.

Mr Heslop said Mr Saunders was confident that the payment would be dealt with through the company's proper internal channels and that "alarm bells would be triggered" if the procedure broke down.

Mr Heslop went on to say that the letter from Mr Oliver Roux, the finance director, alleging share support operations by Guinness to boost the company's share price during the Distillers bid, had led to Mr Saunders's dismissal.

The judge said it seemed "improbable" to base Mr Saunders's dismissal purely on the Roux letter. Mr Heslop said that, despite losing two of his positions, Mr Saunders remained a company director. He said that Guinness's court action in March, when orders were made against Mr Saunders and Mr Ward, had been "sprung" on the dismissed chairman after a two month silence by the company.

The judge commented that

in view of the problems Guinness had at that time, including the loss of their chief executive, their failure to give Mr Saunders that opportunity was "comparatively small beer."

Mr Heslop said there was "nothing sinister" about £5.2 million being paid to Mr Ward's company or that Mr Saunders had allowed Mr Ward to use his Swiss bank account.

The Vice-Chancellor commented that to a "simple English judge" the £5.2 million fee seemed "a lot of money" but he was well aware of the scale of fees that could be paid.

The hearing continues

COMMENT

Why Lonrho's victory may prove pyrrhic

If Messrs Philip Heslop, QC, and Hugh Aldous enjoy a good Agatha Christie yarn, they at least should find their investigation of the House of Fraser stores group a pleasurable task. For the inspectors appointed to conduct an inquiry on behalf of Trade Secretary Paul Channon have many mysteries to unravel, some real, others less so. Among the most unfathomable, especially in the light of subsequent events, was the decision in November 1984 by Lonrho's chief executive, Tiny Rowland, to dispose of the key, 29.9 per cent block of House of Fraser shares to the Al-Fayed brothers. To say that the sale astonished all those who had watched Tiny Rowland's relentless pursuit of Fraser over the preceding years is an understatement.

The handing-over, albeit at a profit, of a holding which left the Al-Fayeds 60 per cent of the way to control of the stores group appeared at the time to be totally at odds with Rowland's single-minded determination to prise Harrods from the grasp of its owners.

Leaving aside the obvious thought, not borne out by subsequent events, that the Al-Fayeds were to warehouse the shares on behalf of Lonrho, one is forced to a couple of conclusions. The first is that Tiny Rowland was embarked on a strategy of deep complexity, by which he hoped eventually to emerge triumphant as the owner of Harrods and the second that it backfired entirely. As a working hypothesis, this has a number of things in its favour. It explains why, having just sold effective control to the Al-Fayeds, Lonrho quickly began to build a fresh shareholding. It also puts into context Rowland's scarcely-concealed anger at the successful, £615 million cash takeover mounted later by the Al-Fayed brothers and his repeated attempts to have it subjected to official scrutiny.

Far less worthy of analysis is Lonrho's cry of "Foul!" that the Al-Fayed brothers were speedily permitted to complete their acquisition of Fraser while Lonrho itself had been subject to official scrutiny of a meticulous degree before receiving, too late, the freedom to make a full-scale takeover. The guidelines laid down by Norman Tebbit and well known at the time, laid emphasis on matters affecting competition. It was entirely predictable that the overseas hotels, natural resources and investment interests of the Al-Fayeds would be seen as no barrier to the ownership of a British-based department stores chain.

Lonrho, in contrast, had placed itself in a difficult position; in general terms by its seizure of House of Fraser and in particular by the proposal to nominate 12 new Fraser directors, six of them

Lonrho men. This ploy could well have resulted in Lonrho winning control at a time when it was still bound by undertakings following an earlier investigation not to make the two companies interconnected. The Government, therefore, had little option but to order a further Monopolies Commission investigation in the unusual circumstances that a formal set of merger proposals was not in existence.

Lonrho may count it as a victory that there is to be an investigation into the acquisition of Fraser. But the victory may prove to have been pyrrhic.

The Bank gives in

The Bank of England has, against its inclinations, bowed to the wishes of the market and the Government in the matter of underwriting gilt-edged auctions. The reasons are revealing. The market-makers refused to be forced into bidding for stock if other institutions did not have the same obligation. The market-makers clearly feel they are in some ways competing with the big gilt investors, and were uncomfortable with an underwriting commitment if they could not "see" the whole market.

One solution might have been to force all investors to bid through the market-makers, but this would have created an unacceptable cartel. Another was to have offered some inducement, such as a commission, for the extra obligation — but the Government refused. The Bank has, therefore, had to accept a situation in which not all of the stock on issue in an auction may be sold.

That may not be a problem; there are, after all, a lot of market-makers to bid for stock. But the result is that the auction will not really be so different from the traditional tender method, and will not give that certainty of funding which was one aspect of an auction system to have attracted the Bank in the first place.

Another request agreed by the Bank was that very large and aggressive moves by some players — the Bank does not actually say Japanese and US institutions — can be blocked. If at least 25 per cent of an offer looks like going to a single bidder, it can be stopped. If the bid is merely an aggregation of several orders put through one player, it will probably be allowed.

This is partly a response to the US Treasury Bond auction last May when the Japanese spirited away an entire issue. How much easier it would have been to do that in the much smaller British gilt market.

"Dollar faces crucial test Free-fall Feared"

"Coffee price 'will go on falling'"

"All set for gold to break \$500"

Each of these Monday headlines suggest that a major move is about to take place - and altho prices may surge or collapse, either way, futures and options traders are faced with some exciting opportunities.

If you want the chance to profit but do not know how, call Mark Evans at GNI on 01-481 9827 or write to him at 3 Lloyds Avenue, London EC3N 3DS



FIRST IN FUTURES

Papering over the cracks

So much for arm's length institutional investors. The meek acquiescence of Crown House to an uninvited £90 million bid from fast-growing wallpaper and home furnishings group Coloroll last week, caused more than a few raised eyebrows among Crown's closest City followers. The company's crucial board meeting exactly a week ago had been expected to result in a rejection of the offer and the launch of a defensive campaign. Instead, the offer was accepted. The surprise change of heart was, I hear, partly brought about by non-executive director Peter Wreford, a representative of Investors in Industry, which owns 6.7 per cent of Crown. He is said to have been the most insistent that the offer be accepted and was influential in persuading chairman Patrick Edge-Parrington — due to retire later this year — to back the bid. With the unfeasible alternative of battling it out with a split board, other boardroom colleagues were obliged to accept. A warning, perhaps, to all other companies who have "friendly" institutional investors lurking in their share register.

Brick dropped

Blue Circle watchers, wondering if it is about to make a bid in Britain, may be interested to learn that in 1985 BCI built up a stake of less than 5 per cent in Istock Johnson, the brick maker. However, according to David Poole, joint managing director

THE TIMES CITY DIARY Savoy dressing down

The Savoy Hotel — favourite luncheon venue for generations of champagne-swilling City slickers — has hit upon an unexpected and lucrative sideline. To cut down on the number of white towelling bath robes being kept by its up-market guests as souvenirs of their stay, it has been

offering the robes for sale. A discreet note in the pocket of each robe — which carry the green Savoy emblem on one shoulder — advises that they can be bought from the house-keeper for just £38. The idea is proving so popular that they are now selling at the rate of 200 a month.

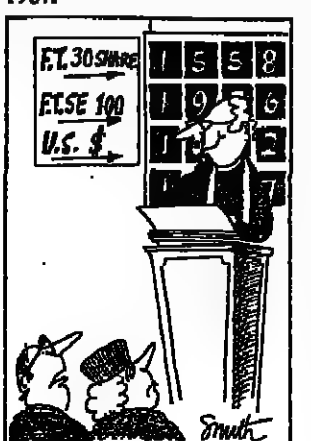
of BCI, this stake was sold at a handsome profit that same year. What will Blue Circle turn its attention to next?

● The Japanese banking community clearly thinks it is in London to stay despite the talk of a trade war. The Bank of Japan has just bought a four-bedroom penthouse apartment in Prince Albert Road, Regents Park, for £1.175 million — on a 999-year lease.

So there!

Such is the language of takeover documents in the aftermath of the Guinness affair. In its offer document for Avana, RHM states: "Save as disclosed herein or as disclosed in the original offer document or in the listing particulars or in the 24th March circular none of the directors of RHM nor any of their immediate families nor RHM or any of its subsidiaries nor any person acting in concert with RHM for the purpose of the increased offer

and the preference offer holds, controls or is beneficially or non-beneficially interested in any shares or options to subscribe for or securities convertible into, shares in RHM or Avana or has dealt therein for value during the period commencing February 6 1986 and ending April 2 1987."



"It's been happening ever since he bought some TSB shares."

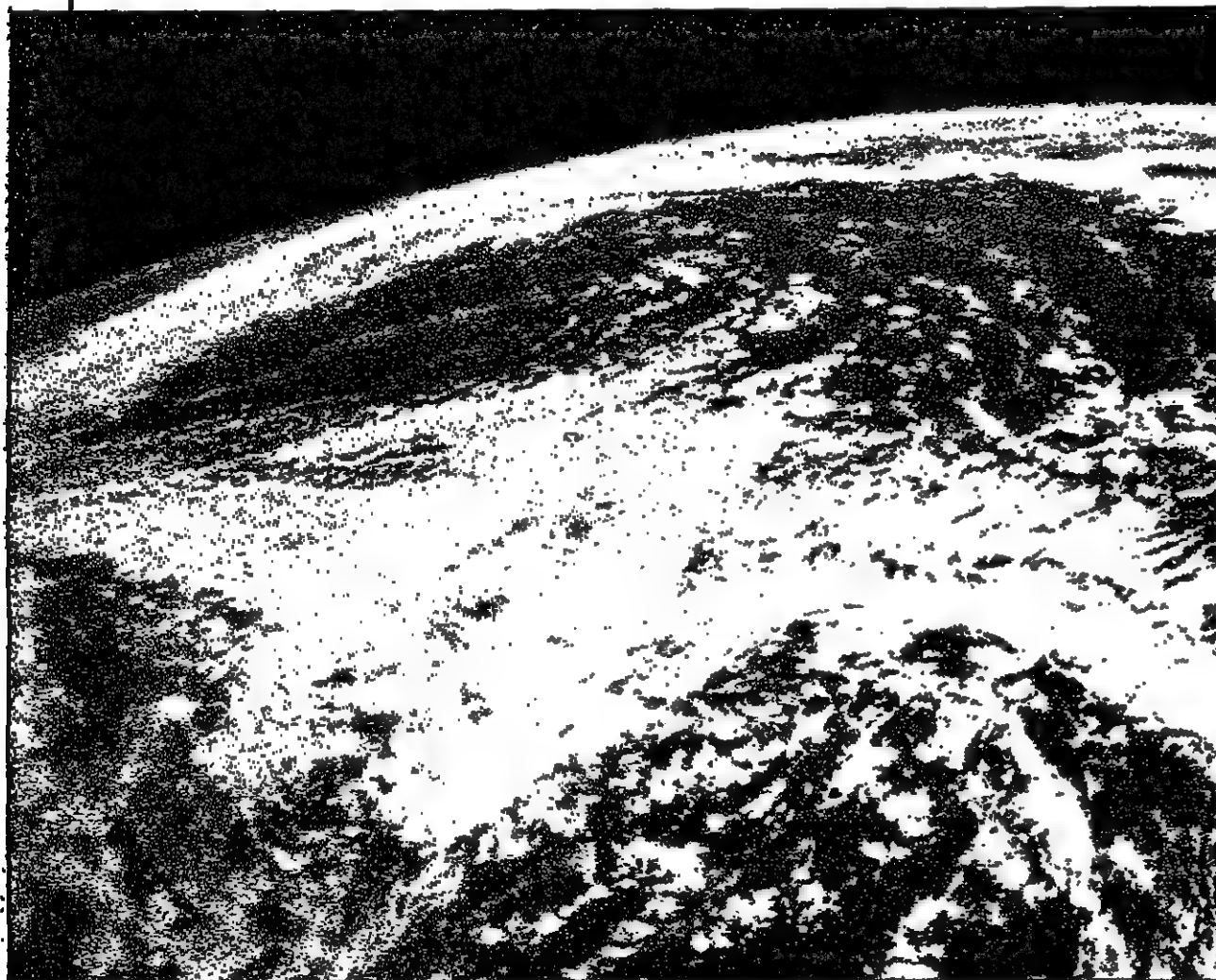
BT on the right lines

Another successful British export, just three months after British Telecom launched its Talk About conversation line in Boston, it has notched up more than a million telephone calls there, averaging six minutes each and costing 70 cents. Although BT keeps only 40 per cent of the proceeds — with the balance going to a local telephone company — it is a highly profitable venture and expansion into the Midwest is planned this year. News of its American success comes as BT is celebrating the fourth British anniversary of Talk About — a curious service which allows up to 12 strangers to converse, with human monitors listening in to cut off callers who swear or attempt to give their surname, telephone number or address. In Britain we only talk for an average of four minutes but have nevertheless made 50 million calls since 1983. To impoverished parents who complain that the service is used exclusively by their children, BT says 50 per cent of the callers are adults. And the most popular topic of conversation? "EastEnders," says BT.

● Quote of the week? Asked by a City analyst yesterday why he didn't buy back his own shares given that he received such a thin return from his ever-increasing £712 million cash pile, Paul Grolami, chairman of pharmaceutical giant Glaxo, said: "I don't think we have enough money yet to think about that too seriously."

Carol Leonard

STRENGTH IN DEPTH ACROSS THE WORLD.



Standard Chartered

**STRENGTH IN DEPTH
ACROSS THE WORLD.**

STANDARD CHARTERED BANK, HEAD OFFICE: 38 BISHOPSGATE, LONDON EC2N 4DE.

STATEMENT ON THE 1986 RESULTS. BY THE CHAIRMAN THE RT. HON. LORD BARBER.

In 1986 earnings increased by 14% to £151 million. The comparable figure for 1985 was £133 million. This was the outcome of some sharply contrasting influences on the Group results during the year, in which strong revenue generation was marred by a need for large debt provisions, but the Group benefited from a lower overall effective tax charge.

Trading profit before charges for bad and doubtful debts increased by 29% to \$394 million and reflected a most encouraging performance in nearly all the major regional businesses. However, the continuing, serious recessionary conditions in Singapore and Malaysia and the depressed condition of the shipping industry made it necessary to provide heavily against bad and doubtful debts arising from loans in the Asia Pacific Region, on top of the normal level of provisioning. The decision was also taken to build up loan loss reserves by making a sizeable increase in the charges for general provisions for commercial and cross border risks. The effect of movements in exchange rates between end-1985 and end-1986 has again been unfavourable, to the extent of some £13 million. The overall result has been a 5% drop in profits before taxation to £254 million, as compared with £268 million in 1985. This has been mitigated by a lower tax charge, which arose in part from a decision to increase the element of specific provision against cross border lending. The final outcome is a 14% increase in earnings per share to 97.0 pence.

SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS £1,295 MILLION

Last summer shareholders were informed that directors expected to be able to recommend dividends totalling not less than 35 pence for the year. An interim dividend of 12.5 pence was paid in October and a final dividend of 22.5 pence is recommended by the Board. The total payment of 35 pence per share is covered 2.8 times by earnings, the same as last year, and represents an increase of 14.8% over the dividends for last year.

With shareholders' funds remaining virtually unchanged, there was a further improvement in the return on capital, with the earnings return on shareholders' funds increasing to 12.4%. This marks a further step towards the corporate objective of 15%.

The Group further strengthened its capital resources during the year to just over \$3 billion, while total assets increased to \$32.2 billion on a well-spread basis. Capital adequacy ratios remain strong, with the key primary capital ratio standing at 7.5% at the year-end.

There was a further enhancement of the United Kingdom asset base of the Group during the year which now accounts for approximately 37% of total assets, the other two major regions being Asia Pacific with 26% of Group assets and North America with 25%.

Due to substantial provision for bad debts the Asia Pacific Region made a negligible contribution to pretax profits in 1986, in spite of satisfactory profits in the underlying businesses. The level of profits attained without significant contribution from the Asia Pacific Region is an indication of the strength of the performance from the other regions, as well as of the latent potential of the Asia Pacific Region on Group results in more normal trading conditions. The profits contribution from the United Kingdom businesses was well maintained, although the reported result was affected by cross border debt provisioning. Union Bank showed continued growth; Tropical Africa, Middle East and South Asia all turned in excellent performances and the revival in Europe continued.

During 1986 a number of significant projects around the world were brought to fruition. At the beginning of the year a branch of Standard Chartered was opened in Istanbul, the first British bank to be licensed there, and traded profitably from the start. In April Standard Chartered Bank Australia was launched officially, incorporating the older finance and merchant banking businesses as well as the new trading bank and it also had a profitable first year. In May a capital markets subsidiary, Standard Chartered Finanziaria, was launched in Italy and quickly demonstrated an ability to be both innovative and profitable. Towards the end of

the year negotiations were completed to acquire a small bank in Cameroon, and Standard Chartered Bank Cameroon was opened, marking a return to francophone Africa after 13 years.

Arrangements were completed during the year for the acquisition of United Bank of Arizona, which formally joined the Group in January 1987. Following shareholder approval to increase the holding in the Mocatta companies to 80%, which was implemented in July, it was subsequently decided to accelerate the provisions for full ownership, which was achieved shortly before the end of the year, with the exception of a small outstanding shareholding in Mocatta Metals Corporation. Towards the end of the year we agreed to subscribe £19 million for a 12% stake in Abaco Investments, the rapidly expanding financial services company. Since then a programme of co-operation with the Bank and with Chartered Trust has been actively pursued.

CAPITAL RESOURCES £3,013 MILLION

During December Standard Chartered was granted an official listing on the Tokyo Stock Exchange, following the purchase of over 1% of the equity by Japanese investors introduced by Yamaichi Securities. The shares are now traded on the Tokyo Stock Exchange.

During the course of the year Lloyds Bank failed in their attempt to acquire Standard Chartered. The reasons for Standard Chartered's rejection were set out in detail in the various defence documents. I will only add that a contested bid for a major bank is an unwise way to proceed. The Standard Chartered Group has been built up largely by mergers and acquisitions. Never once have we pursued a contested bid.

Following the failure of the Lloyds bid there was continued press speculation and we therefore asked the Bank of England to carry out an investigation under the Banking Act, which they are doing.

In 1986 we welcomed to the Board Sir Yue-Kong Pao, who was also appointed Group Deputy Chairman, Mr Robert Holmes à Court and Mr Peter Woo. In addition, Mr Richard Stein was appointed Executive Director, Finance and Administration, in place of Mr Tarrant who resigned. Tan Sri Khoo Teck Puat also served as a director during the year. At the beginning of 1987 Mr Robin Baillie retired as an executive director but continues on the Board as a non-executive director and Mr Alan Orsich was appointed an executive director.

TOTAL ASSETS £32,224 MILLION

It will soon be my 67th birthday and, as announced last October, I decided to retire at the forthcoming annual general meeting. Sir Peter Graham, whom we congratulate on the conferment of a Knighthood, will succeed me. Sir Peter has spent his entire business career with the Group and has an unrivalled knowledge of our operations. He has been a tower of strength to me since he was appointed Senior Deputy Chairman in September 1983.

In the twelve years since I became Chairman I have visited almost all the countries in which the Group has a presence. Standard Chartered is an immensely complex group. It operates in more than 60 countries around the world, in some of those countries through branch networks, in others through subsidiaries or associates, and apart from normal commercial banking, it carries out a variety of functions ranging from merchant banking to bullion dealing. Furthermore, these countries vary enormously from the simplest of economies to the most sophisticated.

What this complex organisation relies on more than anything else is the calibre of the men and women who serve it. For various reasons which I have mentioned above, and particularly the disruption caused by a contested bid, this past year has been a more than usually difficult one for the staff. My thanks, and those of the Board, go to them, and I wish them well. I shall miss them, both those at home and those overseas.

If Ex dividend, a Cum dividend, is Cum stock split, a first stock split, an Quin all (any two or more of above), a Ex all (any one or more of above), a Quin all (any one or more of above), a Valuation days: (1) Monday, (2) Tuesday, (3) Wednesday, (4) Thursday, (5) Friday, (6) Saturday, (7) Sunday, (8) Monday of month, (22) 1st and 2nd Wednesday of month, (23) 20th of month, (24) 3rd and 4th Tuesday of month, (25) 4th Tuesday of month, (26) 4th Tuesday of month, (27) 1st Wednesday of month, (28) Last Thursday of month, (29) 15th of month, (30) 1st day of month, (31) 20th of month, (32) 1st day of February, March, August, September, (33) 18th of month, (34) 16th of month, (35) 21st of month, (36) 3rd and 4th Tuesday of month, (37) 4th Wednesday of month, (40) Valued monthly, (41) Last Thursday of Stock split, (42) 1st day of month, (43) 2nd and 4th Wednesday of month, (44) Quarterly, (45) 6th of month,

[illegible]

Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gold or Silver
1	Cement-Roadstone	Building, Roads	
2	Chrysalis	Leisure	
3	Horizon Travel	Leisure	
4	Transworld	Industrials S-Z	
5	Woodhouse & Rye	Industrials S-Z	
6	HK Shanghai	Stocks Overseas	
7	TVS NV	Chemicals	
8	Glaxo (Lawley)	Industrials L-R	
9	Marshall (Laurie)	Industrials L-R	
10	Adson Cons	Paper, Print, Adv	
11	Daily Packaging	Paper, Print, Adv	
12	Bulmer (NFI)	Breweries	
13	Wates	Property	
14	RHP	Industrials L-R	
15	Kendy Sme	Industrials E-K	
16	Gold Greenes	Paper, Print, Adv	
17	Adson	Electricals	
18	Sunair	Motor, Aircraft	
19	Wade Pottery	Industrials S-Z	
20	Higgs & Hill	Building, Roads	
21	Greycoat	Property	
22	Reynshaw	Industrials L-R	
23	Brown Boveri Kema	Electricals	
24	Beckman (A)	Textiles	
25	Tip Top Dmg	Draperies, Stores	
26	Marshall (Halifax)	Building, Roads	
27	Camford Eng	Industrials A-D	
28	Scotchman (J) (as)	Food	
29	Cook (Wm)	Industrials A-D	
30	Wholesale Fitting	Electricals	
31	Br Bonul	Chemicals, Plastics	
32	Southern & Ptn	Industrials S-Z	
33	Roper	Industrials L-R	
34	Dela	Industrials A-D	
35	Lee Refrigeration	Electricals	
36	Marky	Building, Roads	
37	Emmerton Int	Industrials A-D	
38	Wood (SW)	Industrials S-Z	
39	DSC	Industrials A-D	
40	Shupe & Fisher	Building, Roads	
41	Pico	Electricals	
42	DGC	Paper, Print, Adv	
43	Renshaw	Chemicals, Plastics	
44	Whitbread Inv	Breweries	
O Times Newspapers Ltd. Daily Total			

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
The weekend game will be played on Good Friday, when the weekly prize will be £16,000. Note your daily totals below						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUNDAY

BRITISH FUNDS			
1987	High	Low	Stock

1987	High	Low	Stock

SHORTS (Under Five Years)			
1987	High	Low	Stock

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS			
1987	High	Low	Stock

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS			
1987	High	Low	Stock

UNDATED			
1987	High	Low	Stock

INDEX-LINKED			
1987	High	Low	Stock

BANKS DISCOUNT HP			
1987	High	Low	Stock

ELECTRICALS			
1987	High	Low	Stock

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Equities still depressed

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began April 6. Dealings end April 24. \$Contango day April 27. Settlement day May 5.
§Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are recorded at 5pm. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close and may differ from changes calculated by comparing 5pm prices, published the previous day. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (as) denotes Alpha Stocks, volumes are on page 22

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Open	Close	Vol	P/E

BREWERIES									

BUILDINGS AND ROADS									

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS									

CINEMAS AND TV									

HOTELS AND CATERERS									

INDUSTRIALS A-D									

S-Z									

ELECTRICALS									

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Open	Close	Vol	P/E

BREWERIES									

BUILDINGS AND ROADS									

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS									

CINEMAS AND TV									

HOTELS AND CATERERS									

INDUSTRIALS A-D									

S-Z									

ELECTRICALS									

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Open	Close	Vol	P/E

BREWERIES									

BUILDINGS AND ROADS									

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS									

CINEMAS AND TV									

HOTELS AND CATERERS									

INDUSTRIALS A-D									

S-Z									

ELECTRICALS									

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Open	Close	Vol	P/E

BREWERIES									

BUILDINGS AND ROADS									

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS									

CINEMAS AND TV									

HOTELS AND CATERERS									

INDUSTRIALS A-D									

S-Z									

ELECTRICALS									

Portfolio Gold

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1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Open	Close	Vol	P/E

OVERSEAS TRADERS									

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G									

PROPERTY									

MINING									

SHIPPING									

SHOES AND LEATHER									

TEXTILES									

TOBACCO									

Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend a interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and not include a special payment h Pre-merger figures a Forecast earnings a Ex other f Ex other g Ex other or share split 1 The free ... No significant data.

Edited by Matthew May

COMPUTER HORIZONS/1

PCs in Paris — but did the right people take a look?

The computers-for-all movement gathered strength at France's leading annual computer fair last week. But were the right people at the show? Egalitarian end-user computing is typified by the personal computer, which has given a host of white-collar workers their place in the information revolution.

At the 38th Sicob show, this group of computer users were given more encouragement by the attention given this year to departmental computing, but it seems unlikely that many were there to enjoy it. Trade shows after all still remain the preserve of data processing professionals.

Departmental computing gives people in sales and marketing, personnel, or any other section access to their own shared computing resource. It is a halfway house between personal computing, where staff use individual micros, and corporate data processing, where a large computer and specialist staff serve a whole organization.

It implies a higher degree of organization than is found with PCs, but fewer technical demands than are made by mainframes.

The work, in any case, is different. The kind of data generated in offices, documents, forms, messages, has been described rather crushingly as undisciplined, in that it lacks the structure and malleability of the figures and codes on which data processing thrives.

specialists is that undisciplined data comes from undisciplined people and so they have tended to view white-collar workers with suspicion.

Different departments have different requirements, which makes them particularly burdensome to data processing people. They have been served by minicomputers or, more recently, small networks of micros, but suppliers are

THE WEEK

From David Guest in Paris

now arguing that this extension of the computing franchise was imprecise in focus and inadequate in extent.

The variety of needs adds an extra consideration, the absolute necessity of imposing a consistent pattern on computer purchases.

ICL in Paris was making its bid for a departmental computing market that it says is growing at 40 per cent a year. It was also putting itself forward as a good European — first by making its announcements in France, and second by adhering to standards whose main support comes from European suppliers.

This was slightly easier to swallow than IBM's performance in Greenock, Scotland, the previous week when, in the course of launching some non-standard equipment, it incidentally exposed how important IBM UK is to the UK. No doubt.

The ICL computers are based on the

Unix operating system, and they conform to the standards laid down by a coterie of 11 suppliers called the X/Open Group. This perhaps explains why ordinary computer users, as opposed to specialist data processing staff, aren't yet attracted, or for that matter sent, to trade shows.

Standardization, in any case, only serves a purpose if the procurement policy of a company is geared to take advantage of it. ICL now claims that it can offer Unix from the lowest level, its DRS 300 multiuser microcomputers, to the highest, its mainframe computers.

The new departmental systems fit in between, which could be taken to reflect a model of a company's structure.

Clearly, data processing managers are best placed to ensure that the systems a company buys reflect the model faithfully.

Computers at different levels should be capable of communicating with each other, and the data processing manager is the most likely overseer. So end-user computing doesn't automatically entail end-user visits to Paris in the spring.

But end-users can take heart from the way that Sicob is drifting, geographically and from season to season. It used to be held in the autumn, in western Paris. Now it is a spring fair in the northern suburbs. Next year it might take a computer to track it down.

Graphic display of desktop efficiency

By Geoff Wheelwright

IBM's recent announcement of a new computer graphics standard — the Video Graphics Array or VGA — to go with its new range of Personal System computers, should give another boost to the already fast-moving desktop publishing business.

Desktop publishing, or DTP, as its known among computer buffs, is the business of producing typeset quality documents — often including pictures — using only a desktop computer and a special high-quality printer.

To work effectively, it requires computer screens capable of displaying letters and numbers in a wide variety of readable typefaces — from very large to very small.

The new VGA standard should improve IBM's capability in that direction, which it had started to move toward with its previous Enhanced Graphics Adaptor standard.

Indeed it was EGA that allowed companies such as Aldus — the leading producer of desktop publishing software for the Apple Macintosh —



Travel contest prizewinners are notified by Virgin Atlantic staff using desktop publishing

finally have the framework in which to offer a proper high-resolution colour version of its Pagemaker software on the IBM PC and compatibles.

The VGA standard is also likely to be the first evidence of the commitment to desktop publishing that IBM declared last year when it announced the establishment of a special division within the company totally devoted to desktop publishing systems.

The arrival of the new graphics standard and IBM's support for desktop publishing, however, will by no means make Big Blue the automatic leader in the market.

Most of the major players in the UK PC market, for exam-

ple, have all moved aggressively to try and get into this sector.

Birmingham-based Apricot Computer, for example, became one of the first British companies to announce a strategic relationship with Aldus late last year when it showed a DTP system based around a modified Apple LaserWriter computer printer, Apricot's own Xen-i computer, and the Aldus Pagemaker software.

Since then, other British companies, such as Oxford-based Research Machines, have been looking to follow suit by producing powerful mid-range PCs with very high-resolution computer graphics screens.

A wide variety of desktop publishing software has even been produced for low-cost small business computers such as the Amstrad range of machines — although most of this software would not quite be able to produce finished documents to typesetting standards.

British companies are also facing tough competition from the reigning American DTP champion, Apple Computer, and an American challenger in the form of Atari, which has

shown its own cheap desktop publishing system, starting at recent industry shows in Las Vegas and Hannover.

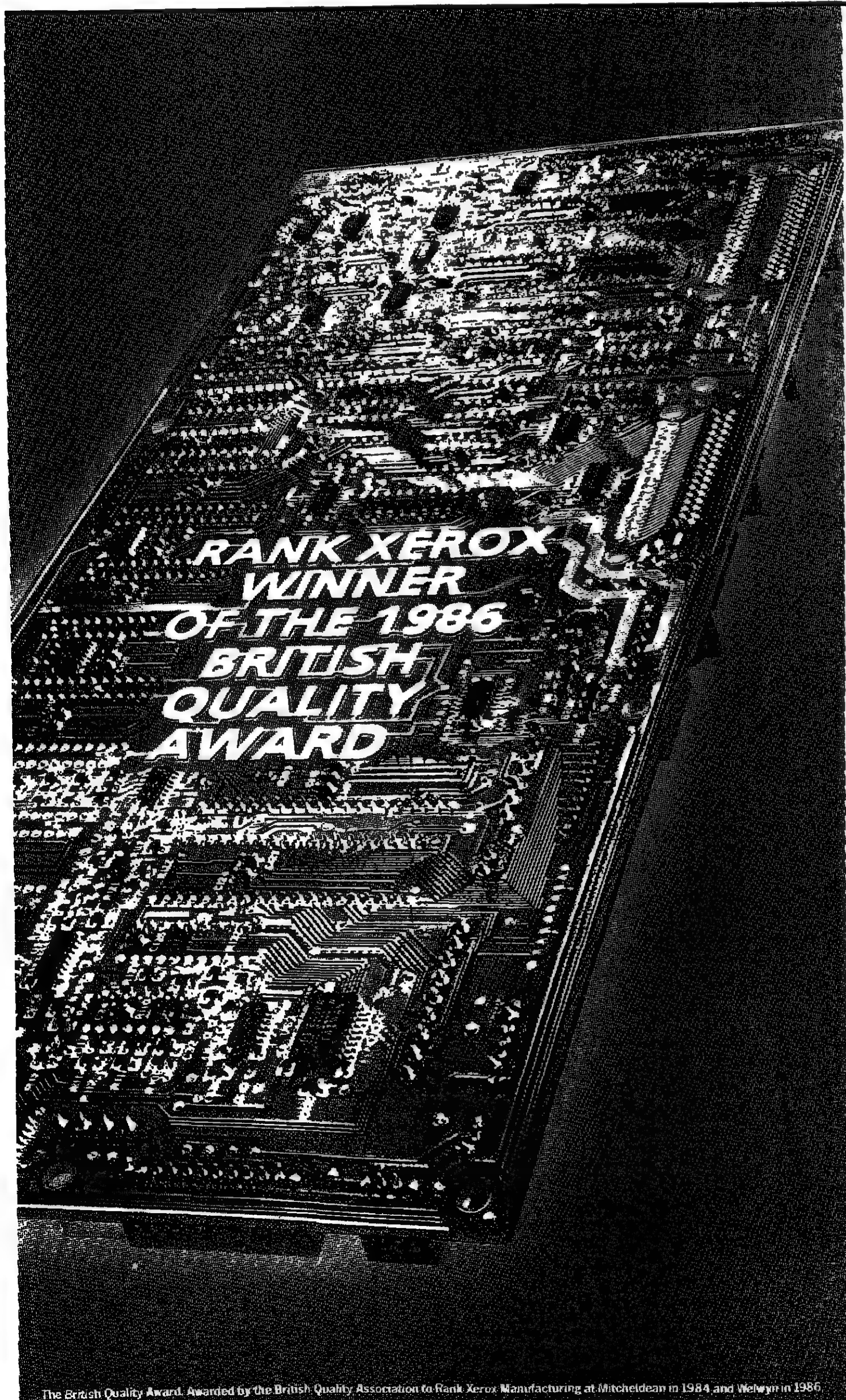
Last week, two new software and hardware enhancements for Apple's desktop publishing system were announced in the form of a new professional illustration package from Adobe, the company which wrote the special Postscript language that links Apple's Macintosh to its LaserWriter printer, and a more up-market scanning and image integration system from photographic experts Agfa-Gevaert.

The Agfa-Gevaert system, in particular, provides Apple with an official solution to getting existing paper-based drawings and images into an electronic desktop publishing document.

Despite these improvements, Apple is sure to be looking over its shoulder at fellow Californian competitor Atari, which is due to release its desktop publishing system in June at only £2,500.

And when it starts delivering that system IBM, Apple, Apricot and others looking at desktop publishing, could be in for a very interesting time.

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For the second time in three years, Rank Xerox have won the British Quality Award.

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Lotus accused of copying Visicalc

Lotus Development, the American software firm which has sued rival software companies for allegedly copying the "look and feel" of its successful 1-2-3 financial spreadsheet program, was itself sued last week on the same grounds.

The \$100 million (£62 million) suit for copyright infringement is the latest, and most ironic, move in a debate dividing the multibillion pound software industry.

The program that Lotus is said to have copied is Visicalc, developed by the Software Arts Products Corporation (SAPC). It is widely regarded as the first innovative personal computer program, one that more than any other fuelled the growth of the young PC industry.

Software Arts sold Visicalc and other assets to Lotus last June and changed its name to SAPC.

Earlier this month, a United States judge in Atlanta ruled in favour of a software company who sued a rival for copying the "look and feel" of its program.

A central issue in such infringement suits is whether a competitor can emulate an existing program's function and appearance if it develops its own software code.

The SAPC lawsuit, filed in Boston, seeks damages from both Lotus, based in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and its founder, Mitchell Kapor.

A Lotus spokesman said this week that the SAPC case was "entirely without merit". Lotus has 30 days to respond to the suit.

SAPC contends that Mr Kapor "misappropriated" copyrighted and confidential aspects of the Visicalc program while he was an employee of the exclusive

marketing agent for Visicalc and that later, as a product tester for an advanced version of Visicalc, he "had access to copyrighted and confidential aspects" of the program.

The suit contends that Lotus 1-2-3 "wrongfully copies many of the commands and keystrokes as well as the screen displays of Visicalc, and that Lotus and Mr Kapor deliberately sought to make the 1-2-3 program look and feel like Visicalc".

Lotus has itself used the "look and feel" argument in lawsuits against two smaller companies, Paperback Software and Mosaic Software. Both make spreadsheets that essentially match the functions of the 1-2-3 program but sell at a lower price.

Critics contend that Lotus is

COPYRIGHT

By Peter Lewis

trying not to guard its copyrights but to stifle competition from newer, and some say superior, variants.

Lotus has sold more than three million copies of 1-2-3, which allows users to do complicated financial calculations with a few keystrokes.

Greg Jarboe, the Lotus spokesman, said: "This lawsuit is entirely without merit and we intend to demonstrate as much in court."

"We have been advised that the two men who created Visicalc, Dan Bricklin and Robert Frankston, have publicly denied having anything to do with filing the lawsuit."

He added: "So far as we can determine, this lawsuit was an ill-considered first strike by parties who have been preparing to release their own clone of Lotus 1-2-3."

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The British Quality Award. Awarded by the British Quality Association to Rank Xerox Manufacturing at Mitcheldean in 1984 and Welwyn in 1986.



6 Entries are not returnable.

■ APL is a write-only language. I can write programs in APL but I can't read any of them — Roy Keir.

THE JUDGES: Alan Coren, left, the broadcaster and editor of *Punch*, will judge the competition entries with Sam Smith, whose cartoons appear in *The Times*, journalist Rex Maltz and Ron White of the Computer Management Group. Each week they will select entries which we will publish the following week.

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However, as Mr Smith points out, there is a lot more pressure as well as responsibility in the consultancy area. The compensation comes through the earnings which can start from between £20,000 and £30,000 a year and reach £35,000 or more.

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MoD goes for a simpler system

DEFENCE

By Robert Matthews

The Ministry of Defence last week revealed its multi-million pound plans to update its vast and byzantine information technology system.

It also told some of Britain's leading computer firms what they would have to do to benefit from the re-fit.

The MoD last year spent about £100 million on its so-called "non-operational" computer system, which looks after the day-to-day running of the Ministry, and the spending is rising at about 20 per cent a year.

However, in common with many private sector institutions, it found that the lack of a coherent strategy has led to communication difficulties in the Ministry, with its 40-plus offices and 24,000 staff.

Different departments, even different regiments, are now using a hodgepodge of often incompatible computer systems.

The MoD wants a single Ministry-wide system by the 1990s with staff having one keyboard capable of word processing, computing and communication.

Brian Rule, the Ministry's director general for information technology systems, said at last week's industry briefing that the new strategy would be led by software, rather than hardware.

The MoD wants to avoid being geared into one company because of a choice of hardware. "We see the key to the future being our investment in software with the choice of hardware being a secondary choice."

"We are looking to the use of industry standards wherever possible, and not to defining special ones," said Mr Rule.

A Unix-based system is being considered for at least part of the new system.

Security is a major consideration in the strategy and the MoD sees equipment suppliers having some work to do.

Alan Payne, one of the MoD's IT directors, said that he had been told by some IT companies that even they did not trust their systems with some of their own internal documents.

He said that although governments appear to be far more concerned about computer security than those in the private sector, this was more a reflection that computer fraud had still not prompted sufficient concern among private sector clients, who would then demand far higher standards.

Mr Payne warned prospective suppliers: "The capabilities of firms in the security area will be in our minds when drawing up tender lists and that part of their proposals will be examined with particular care."

Flat screen for £950

This flat computer screen, similar to those in use on some portables, is now available in Britain from distributors Northamber. It costs £950 and uses liquid crystal display technology with advantages in being able to reduce a bulky computer terminal to a glorified anglepoise lamp. Unfortunately the screens still have problems matching the display qualities of desktop terminals but have been steadily improving.



Designing with a new intelligence

By Peter Sands

Silicon compilers, the software that automates complex chip design, sounds intelligent enough. But now Silicon Compilers Inc (SCI) is going one step further with the concept of intelligent silicon compilers.

The company's tools allow systems designers to define the chips they need by describing them in the form of circuit diagrams.

The software converts the diagrams into logic functions, works out what transistors will be needed for each function and then how best to interconnect the logic elements and lay them out on silicon.

Intelligent compilers will go one better. They can decide whether the engineer's function design is the best for what he needs to do. If it is not, it

will choose a better alternative.

The intelligent compiler has access to a knowledge base comprising a library of the best ways to implement various electronic functions on silicon. If someone feeds it the concept of a circuit — what it has to do, how fast it should be and what other size and cost constraints there are — it looks at the design offered and sees if it has anything better in its knowledge base.

If so it uses it. If not it uses the design concept which has been fed, provides the final design on silicon but also saves the design as part of its knowledge base for future use.

Users of the system would buy the compilation software and the knowledge base but they also need an Apollo or VAX work station.

SCI hopes it can develop

some means of gathering back everything the individual knowledge bases learn from users. It would then consolidate the new information.

SCI has just changed its name and merged with a would-be competitor, Silicon Design Labs. The new company is called Silicon Compilation Systems. SDL was in the business of developing tools for integrated circuit designers.

One coup has been the recent RCA announcement of compact disc video. RCA believe it stole the march on compact disc pioneers Philips and Sony but its CD video would not have been possible without the design and fabrication in under nine months of two very complex custom chips which were designed using Genesi — SCI's current design coup.

Between them the two chips have more than a 250,000 transistors. Before the advent of technology such as Genesi this sort of task would have taken a team of more than a dozen people over two years to complete.

IBM thinks big but at a cost to small clients

With the announcement of an entirely new family of computers, it appears IBM has made a start toward pulling its chestnuts out of the fire.

It is no secret that IBM's personal computer arm was in deep difficulty, the result of a long series of abysmal decisions that began with underestimating the personal computer market, and reached new depths with the concept of the PC Junior home computer as a toy.

IBM was ultimately beset on the one hand by a horde of clones, most of them imported, nearly all of them cheaper and some of them more technically advanced, and on the other by Apple's burgeoning Macintosh line.

It was widely suspected that IBM's big announcement earlier this month would be of a new line of computers with gimmicks that would simultaneously render them incompatible with MS-DOS and the vast body of software that runs on that system.

The thinking was that in a suicidally arrogant move, IBM would forsake its faithful and try to establish an entirely new standard.

So the experts were widely confounded when IBM made no such move at all. It announced a bewildering array of new machines, but all of them will run under the MS-DOS, or PC-DOS, standard.

The philosophy underlying the lower-priced end of these products is to try and enter into direct battle with the clones by giving customers more for their money. What advanced technology there is has gone into the higher end.

With an order from Lloyds Bank announced last week for 4,000 of IBM's new Personal System/2 computer range worth more than £8 million, IBM could have yet another winner with large organizations. But has it deserted the smaller customer?

and that end is rather too high, at £7,000 or £8,000 or so.

The major interest for small business users will be in the new Model 30 and Model 50. The Model 30 runs on the old 8086 processor chip, the same as the PC and XT use now. The attraction is that IBM has made standard in the new machines a good many things that are high-priced additions with the old ones.

For instance, the Model 30 machines will come with 640K of RAM installed and

colour graphics already in place. A clock, parallel and serial ports and a mouse port are standard. The Model 30, in a two-floppy configuration, starts at about £1,500, a model with one floppy and a 20-megabyte hard drive runs to around £2,000.

The Model 30 will still cost more than a lot of comparably-equipped clones, but not a huge amount. The problem, of course, is that a good many of those clones are running 80286 processors and will be a whole lot faster.

Still, IBM hopes many customers will sacrifice the speed and a few pounds to go with Big Blue. The biggest drawback to the Model 30, is that it will not run IBM's new disc operating system when it becomes available.

Operating System-2 is obviously IBM's attempt to establish, once and for all, a

standard for windowing and multi-tasking and to compete with the gargantuan memory capabilities of Apple's new Macintosh II.

According to the product literature, the new DOS — which won't be available until around this time next year — is actually a three-in-one system.

It will work with programs written for MS-DOS. It also establishes something called Family Environment, which is evidently a hybrid of standard DOS and the third system, which is the full-blown Operating System-2.

It will also cost £275, though it has a fully relational on-board database and communications facility, as well as the multi-tasking capability — which simply means that you can have a number of programs running concurrently — and the ability to address up to 16 megabytes of Random Access Memory.

To make use of that system, however, you've got to go at least to the Model 50, an 80286-based machine, which comes with all the on-board extras of the Model 30 plus a 20-megabyte hard drive, a megabyte of RAM and the ability to accept up to six more megabytes.

That carries a rather steep list price of nearly £3,300 but if you're using the machine for fairly heavy-duty business applications it is very appealing.

The PC, first introduced in 1981, is now officially defunct. IBM will continue to sell the XT at a 25 per cent discount and the AT at a mere 4 per cent off, which seems absurd in light of the Model 50.

Finally, all the System 2 machines will employ 3½ inch drives, which are, of course, a major improvement over 5¼-inch floppies in both capacity and durability. Although getting your files and program disks converted is going to be aggravating at best and expensive at worst.

COMPUTER APPOINTMENTS

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The NCVQ is now seeking a person of graduate status to oversee and initiate this work.

The particular disciplinary background of applicants is less important than the ability to adopt an holistic approach to the solution of complex information handling problems.

However, the person appointed will have a major role in advising on the actual configuration of the system ultimately adopted by NCVQ. Applicants must therefore have a detailed knowledge and understanding of the capabilities and limitations of the computer hardware and software currently available and of new developments in this field. For this reason a background in modern information systems would be an advantage.

A key feature of the post will be to recommend to what extent the NCVQ's database might interface and harmonise with those of other bodies.

Candidates will therefore be expected to possess the interpersonal skills necessary to gain the confidence of a wide range of representatives at senior and operational levels of such organisations, and the self-reliance inherent in taking the initiative in making the necessary contacts and carrying through a project to a successful conclusion with a minimum of supervision.

At the outset the person appointed will be expected to operate largely independently. However adequate staff and financial resources will be made available to ensure the required outcome is achieved.

Appointment will be made within a salary range of £15,783 to £18,212 (including London Allowance) on a scale rising by annual increments to £20,930pa, with the prospect of advancement offering salary prospects of up to £25,767pa.

The NCVQ offers a non-contributory pension scheme and 25 days annual leave together with 10½ days public and privilege holidays. Conditions of employment are analogous to those of the Civil Service.

Persons interested in applying for this position are invited to send a full CV to Anna Orr, The National Council for Vocational Qualifications, 222 Euston Road, London NW1 2BZ, together with a covering letter explaining how they meet the requirements, by 24 April 1987.

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Company: An international company based in the USA, involved in the exploration and production of oil and gas throughout the world and, with major interests in the North Sea.

Positions: Analyst Programmer to work within a team developing and installing an oil and gas accounting system on a DEC VAX mini. Other duties will also include liaising with accounting staff in order to identify requirements.

Experience: A minimum of 3 years experience of BASIC preferably from a DEC VAX environment but not essential as training will be given. Sound knowledge of accounting applications is also required, as is the ability to learn quickly and adapt to changing work requirements. Knowledge of Fortran and some experience of IBM PCs would be an advantage.

General: This position would suit someone who is self-motivated and with the mental agility to work in a fast moving environment where the rewards are inevitably high.

REF: TP 3296

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REF: TM 2785

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General: In return for your experience and professionalism a competitive salary including excellent banking benefits will be paid. In addition the potential to progress within this leading merchant bank provides an unbeatable career opportunity and a challenging and rewarding post.

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Experience: A minimum of 3 years in Data Processing from within a commercial/financial environment coupled with good knowledge of ACGL, preferably FOCUS. Alternatively sound DEC VAX experience with good programming and analytical skills will also be welcome. Training will be given where required.

General: Position will suit candidates looking to broaden their skills and horizons working in a development environment which offers considerable user liaison and European travel. Salaries are excellent and at the more senior level there is a car/motor subsidy. First class training offered. CONFIDENT/CAPABLE INDIVIDUAL ONLY.

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COMPUTER HORIZONS/4

Why micro experts are falling behind in the wages stakes

SALARIES

By Jane Lawrence

The proliferation of personal computers means that more companies are searching for someone to take charge of their microcomputers.

Logically, this should be a boon for micro staff and employers alike: prospective PC managers gain through promotion and a bigger pay packet, and the employer by filling the vacancy.

But increasingly the two sides seem unable to meet on mutually beneficial ground when it comes to matching salary with skills.

The problems are several. Employers tend to downgrade micro expertise when compared with skills gained on bigger computers, such as mainframes.

Consequently they pay their PC managers less than their

data processing managers, and the difference is often considerable.

Big salaries, when they are offered, tend to go hand in hand with managerial jobs, as opposed to those requiring development expertise.

This means technically accomplished staff who help a firm to develop advanced systems, so keeping them ahead of competitors, remain underpaid, and unrewarded. As a result, they have to become managers, or stay put, unsatisfied.

One micro manager in a big financial organization be-

moaned his lot on both counts. He is paid £22,000 a year plus a variety of perks which include a cheap mortgage and company car.

But the two other computer managers in his firm — both in large systems — are paid more than £30,000.

At the same time the company refuses to pay his staff more than him, even though he accepts that to do so would help him keep his employees and keep the firm far ahead of its competitors.

Another PC support worker says he can earn £10,000 more if he joins a firm in the City of London, but that such a move means less responsibility.

"The jobs offered are of low calibre and if I move for more money I'm stuck because

promotion prospects, once there, do not look good."

Nevertheless, the City has proved very tempting to many over the last months. Financial firms are paying over the odds, and many are expecting the fight for technical expertise to hot up still further.

Micro managers believe it will only be a matter of time before one firm headhunts another's micro department wholesale.

And yet that situation need not have arisen if firms had recruited sensibly and trained wisely in the first place.

Annexa Clegg, of the Guildford-based recruitment consultants Strand, agreed. "City salaries do not bear any relation to anything else."

The mini is overtaking mainframe

Managers in the United States are for the first time budgeting more for minicomputers than mainframes, and everybody is spending more on micros than planned, according to a survey by *Detention* magazine. The biggest budget increase is in desktop publishing, up 25 per cent on last year. But while managers budgeted an average 12 per cent on mainframes for information technology they actually spent only 8 per cent.

Budgets for minicomputers, at about 10 per cent, were close to actual sums spent. Mainframe budgets for 1987 have dropped nearly 1 per cent to 7.4 per cent with data processing budgets showing no sign of growth overall. "The so called slump is beginning to look permanent," says the magazine.

Code comfort

The Data Protection registrar, Eric Howe, says he welcomes the codes of practice issued by trade associations and professional bodies. Both the Advertising Association and the Association of British Travel Agents have now issued such codes to help members understand the requirements of the Data Protection Act. Mr Howe anticipates other organizations will follow.

IBM chief goes

When IBM merged the sales and service organization of its Roim subsidiary with its own marketing force last month analysts predicted the imminent departure of Dennis Paboojian, a Roim veteran and president. Last week IBM announced that Mr Paboojian, aged 44, was being replaced as president by Ray AbuZayyad, an IBM vice-president and president of the company's San Jose-based general products division.

Mr Paboojian said he was leaving the Californian company for personal reasons and would remain a consultant for IBM, which acquired the once fiercely independent Roim two and a half years ago. Mr AbuZayyad.

Welcome merger

A powerful new force in the European computer industry was formed



"I specialize in electronic funds transfer — or to put it more simply, I'm a hacker."

last week with the £500 million agreed merger of two UK quoted companies, Atlantic Computers and Comcap. The merged company claims to be the largest independent European supplier of equipment from IBM and will have the biggest slice of the UK market.

BRIEFING

The Stock Market viewed the deal with enthusiasm, raising Atlantic shares from 53p to 64p, while Comcap surged a massive 110p to 82p. Comcap founder, Ernst Schneider, who is retiring, is netting about £5 million cash for around a quarter of his personal holding and taking shares for the rest. Atlantic today announced a 45 per cent profits jump to £21.8 million for 1986. Comcap recently reported profits of £7.6 million for the latest financial year.

Healthy pay rise

National Health computer staff are to receive special salary premiums under the first negotiated agreement allowing public sector differences between regions. It will allow the four Thames regional health authorities to pay up to £4,000 as a premium. More than half the 2,200 NHS computer staff are expected to benefit from the deal.

School program

Warwickshire education authority is to install computer-aided design software in 30 schools. The special £150 program, designed to run on the RIML Nimbus computers, has been produced by Cheshire-based Superdraft Systems as a special cut-down version of its business product.

PCs proliferate

Personal computers are proliferating much faster in large corporations than small businesses, according to *A Personal Guide to Personal Computing*, a new book by Times contributor Geoff Wheelwright out this week. A Dun & Bradstreet survey found some 85 per cent of people in firms that have more than 1,000 employees use PCs compared to only 24 per cent in companies with less than 19 staff. The book also suggests that corporate buyers of PCs are now becoming far more selective about their PCs and about what they want to do with them in terms of networking and increasingly sophisticated PC applications. The book, sponsored by Compaq Computer, costs £4.95 and is published by Quiller Press (01-840 8860).

Britain condemned

Britain's move to block key European Community research spending brought near unanimous condemnation of the European Parliament last Thursday. Conservatives, communists and socialists joined in a rare display of unity to attack Britain's refusal to back a £5 billion budget for joint Community research and technology projects designed to lead European industry into the 1990s. The four-year "framework programme" is aimed at helping European companies fend off the challenge of Japanese and US firms. Supporters of the programme say if it is not approved vital projects — including the best-known Esprit information technology project — will be jeopardized. Britain has complained that some of the research projects are badly thought-out and too expensive.

Pirate's penalty

A tough new Copyright Act, intended to erase Singapore's image as a pirates' haven and wipe out the flourishing multi-million-dollar business of illegal copies, came into force on Friday. The new act, almost five years in the drafting and passage through parliament, provides for stiff penalties including prison terms of up to five years and/or fines of nearly £30,000. Prepared under pressure from countries led by the US and Britain, the act adds teeth to previous legislation and extends copyright protection to works of technological innovation such as computer programs.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

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CONTINUE

ON PAGE 34

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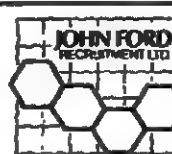
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Further particulars and application forms are available from the County Personnel Officer, County Hall, Maritime Lane, Norwich NR1 2DH. Telephone: Norwich (0603) 611322 Ext. 5337. Closing date: 27th April 1987.

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Further information available from: The Personnel Officer, The Royal College of Surgeons, 35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PS

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Please quote ref. 12/87
Closing date for applications: 25th April 1987

OFFICE OF THE DATA PROTECTION REGISTRAR

The Data Protection Registrar is responsible for the practical operation of the Data Protection Act 1984. The Act is concerned with the use of personal data within computer systems. It creates significant new rights for individuals and a framework within which those using personal data must operate. Activities include registering personal data held in computer systems, ombudsman work for individuals and ensuring compliance with the Act.

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Relocation expenses will be payable in appropriate cases.

Application forms and further details are available from:

Mr. B.D. Jagger, Personnel Manager, Office of the Data Protection Registrar, Springfield House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AX. Tel: 0625 535711.

The closing date for receipt of applications is 30th April 1987.



THE DATA PROTECTION REGISTRAR

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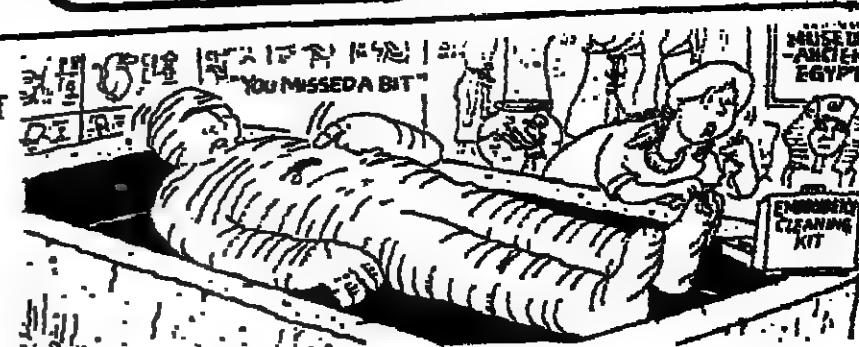
Application forms and Job Descriptions are obtainable from Common Services Unit, Kirklees House, Huddersfield, HD1 2TD (Tel: 0484 21133 - Ext. 450) to whom they should be returned by 1 May 1987.

Kirklees operates an Equal Opportunity policy. Full details of which will be supplied to all applicants.

HORIZONS

A guide to career opportunities

A stitch in time could save much of Britain's heritage of textiles and costumes which are facing disintegration, but only a handful of students are today being trained to look after them, says Joan Llewellyn Owens



Getting it all sewn up

Throughout Britain, scores of historic tapestries, costumes and other textiles are disintegrating, and a backlog of work is building up as demands on textile conservation departments show no signs of diminishing. Yet we are training only a handful of people to save them.

In the past it was common for amateur needlewomen to make repairs and sometimes irreversible damage was inflicted. A conservator of textiles needs much more than the ability to do fine needlework. She - most conservators are women - must be capable of cleaning textiles without harming them, analysing fibres, identifying dyes, suggesting finishing treatments, making recommendations for storage and display, and much more. Chemistry, at least to O-level standard, is now essential.

Trainees are usually graduates in relevant subjects, and opportunities to train are available only at the Textile Conservation Centre in Hampton Court Palace, Surrey, the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, the North West Museum and Art Gallery Service in Blackburn, Lancashire, and in a few private conservation workshops.

Students at Hampton Court study for the postgraduate diploma in textile conservation of the Courtauld Institute of Art, awarded after three years. Ideally, they should have a degree in art history, fine art or a science, and O-level chemistry.

Mette Tang Simpson, director of the centre, says: "In-depth scientific knowledge, a high degree of manual dexterity and an understanding of history are essential."

In addition to its department of studies and research, the centre contains two conservation departments, one for tapestries and one for general textiles. The centre deals with all kinds of historical textiles, including large wall tapestries, rugs, dresses, vestments, furnishings, upholstery, dolls, lace, secular embroideries, flags and banners.

There are 20 to 22 staff, including one man, of whom 12 are employed in the conservation workshops. The postgraduate course, headed by Margaret Roberts, formerly head of textile conservation with the Scottish Museums Council, and head of the tapestry conservation department at the Victoria and Albert Museum, takes seven students each year.

One of the important activities carried out by the centre is research into conditions causing damage and the

measures needed to prevent deterioration of textile collections by improving their surroundings. While I was there, the scientific assistant, Donna Chapman, told me that during the past year she had been working on a project to find out how fibres degraded, with the help of a scanning electron microscope.

Another microscope was being used by a third-year student to look at a mummy shroud from the Petrie museum at University College, London, which needed cleaning. She was using cotton swabs to remove greasy mould. Later she would humidify the cloth in an attempt to restore its original shape.

A second student showed me a piece of silk crepe she had dyed yellow until it was an exact match for a tattered guidon, or small military flag. She had impregnated the crepe with adhesive and that would be heat-sealed on to the original panel, and the whole backed with more silk, to fill gaps.

The course includes lectures at the Courtauld Institute of Art on subjects

Students can get a diploma after four years' training

such as the history of dress, but it is also closely linked to practical experience in the real world of museums.

Former students have no problems in finding jobs. Some join the conservation departments at the centre as conservators. Others go to museums and area museums services, or to the National Trust, which employs qualified textile conservators at some of its houses, to supervise groups of volunteers.

The centre also runs an intern scheme for those already employed in museums or on secondment from other conservation courses.

At the Victoria and Albert Museum there is one studentship in textile conservation. At present the training is part apprenticeship and part academic work, and a diploma is awarded at the end of four years. There are three-year internships for students from overseas. The diploma students have a degree in a relevant subject, such as textile design, fine art or a science, and manual skills.

Next year the Victoria and Albert intend to replace its studentship with an MA course run in conjunction with the Royal College of Art. The intake will probably be slightly increased.

The only area museums service currently offering training is the North-West Museum and Art Gallery Service. Jean M. Glover is the senior textile conservation officer and she has one other textile conservation officer, and one trainee who takes the Certificate of Conservation awarded by the Museums Association.

Apprentices are usually graduates in appropriate subjects. They must also have a high degree of manual skill, patience and accurate colour vision. Minimum requirements are five GCSE passes, two at A-level, and including English, needlework or a closely allied textile subject, and chemistry. Training lasts four years, and trainees usually go abroad for a period to textile conservation workshops with a high reputation.

One of its former students, Vivian Chapman, is now deputy keeper of conservation at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, where she is responsible for all the organic material, apart from wood. There is only one of each sort of conservator and their work often overlaps. "Textile conservators," she says, "tend to dabble with leather because of shoes, and straw because of hats, and ivory because of fans."

Finally we come to the private conservation workshops, one of which, the Textile Conservation studio in London, is headed by Kymia Marko, a former senior conservation officer in charge of tapestry conservation at the Victoria and Albert Museum. She employs two trained conservators and two apprentices, and both will be taking the Museum Association's textile conservation certificate.

In addition to ensuring that irreplaceable pieces of our heritage are preserved, textile conservators contribute to the store of knowledge. Vivian Chapman says: "Conservators are almost always closer to the maker of the object than a curator or an art historian. When they are working with the object they are absorbing the decisions that the person took when he made it."

● *Training in Conservation* (50p, including postage), is available from the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, 37 Upper Addison Gardens, Holland Park, London W14 8AJ.

● *Careers in Museums*, in return for A5 see from the Museums Association, 34 Bloomsbury Way, London WC1A 2SA.

● *Textile Conservation*, Centre, Apartment 22, Base Court, Hampton Court Palace, East Molesey, Surrey KT8 9AU.

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Informal contacts would be welcomed by: Donald Paine, Assistant Director of Personnel (Training & Development), Tel: 01 672 6660.

Nigel Gordon, Chairman Regional Psychological Advisory Committee, Tel: 0444 451881 x 315.

Graham Powell, Course Director, University of Surrey, Tel: 0483 57128.

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Gillingham Borough Council

OFFICER-IN-CHARGE

Required by Registered Charity, at a day centre and short stay residential home for the elderly, in Gillingham.

Applicants should be experienced and preferably qualified in the care of the elderly. The successful applicant will lead a small team of Care Staff, and share in policy and decision making. One bedroom furnished accommodation is available.

Please send CV's in confidence to: The Hon. Sec. COATS, 81 Pudding Lane, Gillingham, Kent ME7 7JL.

CAMPAIGNS OFFICER

The World Development Movement, a registered charity, is a group on Third World issues, which is supported by the major churches and development agencies, needs a new campaigns officer. The post involves a full-time role in the development of the movement's publicity and information work.

This is a full-time position, involving a full-time role in the development of the movement's publicity and information work.

Full details, job description and application form, returnable by 1st May 1987, available from WDM, 10, Bedford Square, London WC1R 4EJ. Tel: 01-404 3672.

ESSEX MAGISTRATE'S COURTS COMMITTEE

Chelmsford, Dengie & Maldon and Witham Petty Sessions Divisions

Senior Court Clerk

CC/PA 10-14 £12,039 - £13,545

This post is based at the Witham Office, but you will also serve the Courts at Maldon and Southminster. The postholder will have responsibility for the day-to-day administration of the two offices at Witham and Maldon.

The post will carry a high degree of responsibility as it is the most senior post based in the Divisions of Dengie & Maldon and Witham. Consequently, the duties attached to the post will include a greater administrative content than is usually associated with a Court Clerk post.

Applicants must be qualified under the Justices' Clerks' (Qualification of Assistants) Rules 1979; be able to take all types of Court without supervision together with the oversight of pre and post court functions and have experience in all other aspects of the work of a Justices' Clerks' office.

Commencing salary within the grade of the post will depend upon experience. Applicants for this post must have a minimum of two years post-qualifying experience as a Court Clerk.

Relocation expenses up to £3,000 are payable in approved cases. A fully valid driving licence is essential and an appropriate mileage allowance will be paid.

Application form and further details from Clerk of the Committee, (Personnel Section) County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1LX. Tel: Chelmsford (0245) 267222 extension 2017.

Closing date 27 April 1987.

SOUTH RIBBLE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Town Clerk's Department

Assistant Solicitor

(£12,555 - £13,653) (TCL25)

This post is one of two Assistant Solicitors. Candidates must be prepared to deal with legal and administrative problems, some of them of substantial difficulty, across the whole range of North Merseyside District Functions. Experience of local authority work will therefore be an advantage.

People who have passed the Law Society Final Examination but still have a period of articles to serve or who are barristers will be considered.

Job description and application form and further details are available on request from Manpower Services Unit, Centre, West Padstock, Leyland PR5 1DH. Telephone: (0773) 421491 Ext. 404. Closing date: 22nd April 1987.

The Borough is a mixed urban/rural area situated at the heart of Central Lancashire immediately south of the River Ribble astride the M6 and M61 motorways. South Ribble's strategic location and excellent communications network have contributed to the area's rapid growth and also give easy access to the Lake District, Fylde Coast and the Pennines. There is a first class range of housing and schools complemented by new shopping, commercial and leisure facilities.

A CAREER IN COMPUTING

There can be no better environment in which to launch your career than the Civil Service - the range and depth of experience and training is simply unequalled. Opportunities exist now in the Department of Health and Social Security at Reading.

You should have at least 2 'A' level passes or a further education qualification and be under 50 years old. Applications from the disabled are also welcome.

For further details and an application form fill in the coupon and send it to the Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours).

The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer

E/638/471

CONSUMER LAWYER

Are you a lawyer keen to find a job which has boundaries broader than those usually found in private practice or commerce? If so, you might be the ideal consumer lawyer we need to join our expanding team of young legal advisers for Which? Personal Service.

The consumer lawyers' principal task is handling the Which? Personal Service members' legal cases but they also have the opportunity to prepare copy for the Which? magazines, and to run a legal hotline telephone service. They work under pressure, but the wide variety of problems handled makes the job interesting and rewarding. Candidates should preferably be solicitors or barristers and have had at least a year's work experience.

Starting salary around £11,900. Benefits include 25 days annual holiday, pension and free life insurance schemes, and interest-free season ticket loan.

Please apply in writing with CV to: Personnel Officer, The Association for Consumer Research, 14 Buckingham Street, London, WC2.

Which?

Assistant Principal Building Control Officer (2 Posts)

Salary £11952 - £12894 p.a.

Applications are invited from experienced Building Control Officers with demonstrable management ability.

The successful applicants will each be responsible for a team of Building Control Officers covering a range of Building Control duties in an area of the district. A self-disciplined approach is required together with experience in plan examination and structural checking and the ability to communicate effectively at all levels.

An appropriate professional qualification (IBCO/IAS) is essential. A minimum of five years experience of Building Control at a senior level is desirable.

An Essential Car User Allowance is payable. A generous relocation package is available including (depending on circumstances) up to £4000 disturbance allowance and bridging loan facilities and a mortgage subsidy scheme. Consideration will also be given to temporary housing accommodation. Canterbury City Council can also offer modern office accommodation, staff canteen and social club, flexible working hours, car loan facilities and contract car hire on a 75/25 basis.

Closing date: 22nd April 1987

Interview date: 5th May 1987

Application form and job description may be obtained from the Chief Personnel Officer, Council Offices, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1YW. Telephone: Canterbury (0227) 451755. Ext. 4206. 6-BD/C41/737

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL

Clerk of the County Council Senior Assistant Solicitor (Common Law)

£15,827-£16,776 p.a.

We require a solicitor in the Legal Services Section. The successful applicant (male or female) will be responsible for the day to day control of a common law section composed of a staff of six dealing with general litigation including the collection of bad debts, contracts and common law matters and giving general legal advice to all County Council Departments. Experience is required in High Court and County Court litigation including personal injury claims and commercial disputes and experience is desirable in contract law and drafting, and judgments and tenancy law. The work is interesting and varied and the successful candidate must be capable of handling a substantial caseload using initiative and decisiveness. A thorough up-to-date knowledge of law and procedure is essential. Previous Local Government experience is not necessary. The post carries an essential car user allowance (subject to annual review).

Relocation expenses where appropriate. Written applications with full C.V. including the names and addresses of two referees should be sent to the County Solicitor at County Hall, Closing date 1 May. Please quote ref. GP/123.

An Equal Opportunity Employer.

Nottinghamshire County Council
County Hall - West Bridgford
Nottingham NG5 7DP

HEAD OF SUPERANNUATION £12,527 Inc. L.W.

The British Medical Association is the doctors' professional association and registered trade union. We are now looking for someone to join our Central & Specialist Services Division.

It will be your responsibility to provide expert advice and services to members, regional services staff and central committees on superannuation and medical careers. You will also manage the superannuation unit and provide a research/drafting service to the BMA Secretary & Head of Division.

To be successful in this role you must have specialised knowledge of superannuation, at least 5 years' experience of committee administration, the ability to manage and also have an understanding of the NHS medical career structures and sound research and writing skills. Some travelling will be required.

Benefits include 24 days' leave, subsidised staff restaurant, season ticket loan etc.

Please apply in writing to Anne Chatterton, Personnel Officer, BMA, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JF. The BMA discourages smoking in all its premises.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

£11,026 to start (review pending)

The BMA is the doctors' professional association and union.

The BMA's Central Ethical Committee and Committee on the EEC require a Committee Secretary who can give full administrative back-up: arranging meetings, preparing papers, providing advice and information to doctors, etc.

If you are educated to A level/degree standard, have at least 5 years' committee experience and can speak, read and write French fluently, this may be the challenging opportunity you seek.

Benefits include 24 days leave per year, subsidised staff restaurant and season ticket loan.

Please apply in writing, with full career details to Anne Chatterton, Personnel Officer, British Medical Association, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JF.

The BMA discourages smoking in all its premises.

WINGED FELLOWSHIP Holidays For Disabled People REGIONAL FUNDRAISING ORGANISER

to cover Merseyside, Greater Manchester, Lancashire and Cheshire - must be resident in the Region

This challenging appointment requires imagination, enthusiasm and skill in communicating with staff and volunteers. Although not essential experience would be an asset.

Salary negotiable: minimum £10,000 p.a. plus car.

For further details and application form apply to: Mrs Pat Brennan, Winged Fellowship, Angel House, Penzance Road, Llandudno, N1 9XD. Tel: 01-833 2594.

COULD YOU DIRECTOR FUNDRAISING FOR A LEADING CHILDREN'S CHARITY

As a major national charity, The Children's Society has an ever-growing need for more funds to continue its work with deprived, handicapped and homeless children and their families in England and Wales.

Last year around 80% of our budget was raised from voluntary sources. The 1987/88 target for voluntary funding is £12.5m, which will present a considerable challenge to the Appeals Director.

Fundamentally, you should have the capacity to plan, direct and manage the Society's strategy for fundraising, with energy and innovation as it moves into an era of change. Ideas are always needed for new areas of funding and you will lead the drive to recruit and develop these, responding to demands from the grassroots of the organisation. Other activities will include budgets and the financial development of our premises system to ensure that we make full use of our sophisticated computer power for fundraising purposes.

As a member of the Society's senior management team you must have proven skills in appeals, or in sales and marketing, as well as creative ideas for the development of staff management is essential. Candidates must be committed Anglicans and have a genuine concern for the values underlying all the Society's services.

An attractive salary and a range of benefits will be offered to the right person.

For further details and an application form, including a statement of the Society's Christian beliefs, please contact Evelyn Thom, Personnel Manager, quoting Ref: 050/1, The Children's Society, Edward Rudolf House, Margery Street, London WC1X 0AL. Tel: 01-837 4256.

Closing date: 1 May 1987.

The Children's Society

ROYAL COLLEGE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNAECOLOGISTS

The College is a membership organisation concerned with standards of care, training, education and examinations in the medical speciality of obstetrics and gynaecology.

ACCOUNTANT

Salary £18,000 - £23,000

The College has an immediate vacancy for an accountant who will be responsible for a small accounts department. The successful applicant, aged 25 to 45, will ideally be fully qualified with experience of final annual accounts, balance sheets, budgetary control and able to liaise with people at all levels. A knowledge of computerised accounting systems would be a definite advantage.

Excellent working conditions include interest free season ticket loan, free lunches, private health care, flexible working hours and superannuation scheme.

For details and an application form please contact: Mrs Anita Simmonds, RCOG, 27 Sussex Place, Regent's Park, London, NW1 4RG. Telephone: 01-262 5424 ext 223.

NAPIER COLLEGE EDINBURGH

EXTERNAL RELATIONS UNIT DIRECTOR

Salary: £20,865 (under review)

Napier College is establishing an External Relations Unit to promote industrial liaison, student recruitment, publicity and related activities. As a result the College has decided to appoint a Director for the Unit whose responsibility will be to maintain and develop the reputation of the College and to market the whole range of services and facilities.

It is likely that the successful candidate will have considerable experience of marketing and knowledge of both the academic and commercial world. Excellent communication skills are essential.

The post is tenable for three years in the first instance.

Application forms and further particulars available from:

The Personnel Officer
Napier College
210 Colinton Road
EDINBURGH
EH14 1DJ

Tel (031)-444-2266 x 4274 or 4268

CLOSING DATE: 8 MAY 1987

A SCOTTISH CENTRAL INSTITUTION

PRINCIPAL OFFICER

SALARY £13,347 - £14,289

Inclusive of London Weighting KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA

STAYING PUT is a recently formed charity established to provide advice and small grants service to elderly private tenants.

We have a Caseworker and Administrator and are now seeking a Co-ordinator able to spearhead the project. An understanding of the housing problems that face elderly people is essential, together with the ability to find solutions and carry them through, whilst promoting and maintaining good relations with voluntary and statutory agencies.

Application form (which should be returned by 6th May) and job description obtainable from:

Mrs J. Turner,
St. Mary Abbots Church Hall,
Village Gate, London W8 6BN.
Telephone (01) 598 3942

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators requires a highly competent Administrator aged between 35 and 45 years. Experienced in servicing committees is important and some legal knowledge is desirable.

Salary not less than £15,000.

Applications in writing to:-

The Secretary
The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
75 Cannon Street
London EC4N 3BH

Industry/Education Liaison Advisers

Posts in the Manpower Services Commission

The Education Directorate (TVE Unit) of the MSC wishes to make a number of additional appointments to complete its team of industry/education advisers.

Candidates for these demanding posts should:

- have held senior management responsibilities in industry, commerce or the public services;
- be committed to active collaboration between education and industry.

Posts will be located in a number of parts of the country but the responsibilities of all will include:

- * on a regional basis, giving advice and support to education authorities in the development of industry and education liaison with the aim of fostering close collaboration between education authorities and industry/commerce/public services so that the curriculum has industry's confidence;
- * maintaining contacts with organisations/individuals active in this field;
- * mounting workshops and other activities to disseminate effective practice;
- * reporting to and advising the Unit on progress and developments.

Advisers will be working closely with MSC Project Advisers, education authority personnel, and industrialists at both local and national level as well as with staff in the TVE Unit: some travelling is therefore involved.

Appointments will normally be offered on a two year secondment basis with options for an extension up to a maximum total period of five years, though period appointments or consultancy arrangements may be possible. MSC invites applications from interested individuals, and from employers wishing to nominate a seconded.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 27th April 1987) write to Joanne Bellamy, MSC, CSP8, Room N207, Moorfoot, Sheffield S1 4PQ or alternatively telephone 0742 704626.

The Manpower Services Commission is an equal opportunity employer and is firmly committed to equal opportunity policies. Applications are welcome from all suitably qualified individuals irrespective of sex, racial origin or disability.

Maternity Leave Appointment

Committee Secretary

Your experience as a Committee Secretary could prove to be the ideal background for a challenging role, within this high-technological computing environment, which will provide full secretarial and administrative support to a variety of committees, meetings and conferences as directed by the Executive Officer.

You should be well educated, ideally to graduate level, suitably qualified (e.g. ICSEA) and have at least 3-5 years' experience in a broad range of committees and administrative work. Numeracy and good administrative and communication skills are essential, as is the ability to write concise, clear and grammatically correct English prose. You should also have a high level of intelligence and logical ability in order quickly to acquire a good understanding of a wide range of market and technical subjects.

This is a temporary appointment which will have an initial duration of approximately nine months. The salary will be negotiable in a range up to £18,500 p.a. and is supported by an excellent benefits package.

Please write with a complete C.V. to Linda Scott, Personnel Manager, Information Services Division.

The International Stock Exchange of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland Limited, Old Broad Street, London EC2N 1HE

THE STOCK EXCHANGE
A market in progress

BRITISH GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

OVERSEAS MINING ADVISER

LONDON Up to £25,767

The British Geological Survey is strengthening its advisory services to the Overseas Development Administration. As a result, an outstanding opportunity has arisen for a highly professional Mining Adviser, based in London but involving considerable overseas travel.

Your prime responsibility will be to advise the ODA on all matters concerning alluvial, opencast and underground mining operations, especially with regard to capital aid projects. Specific duties will include, costing of proposed aid for mining operations, monitoring of aid projects, advising on mining legislation and helping to develop training programmes for foreign students. You will also be required to assist in the recruitment of staff and the selection of consultants and contractors.

You will need a degree, or equivalent, in mining engineering and at least 15 years' international experience of both metalliferous and coal mining. Knowledge of the financial, commercial and managerial aspects of the industry is essential, whilst experience in the formulation and administration of mining legislation is a distinct advantage.

Starting salary is currently up to £25,767, depending on experience but an increase is pending. The post is for a period of 5 years in the first instance.

Please write for an application form, to be returned by 29 May 1987 to:

ESTABLISHMENTS (RECRUITMENT),
BRITISH GEOLOGICAL SURVEY,
KEYWORTH, NOTTINGHAM, NG12 5QG.

Natural
Environment
Research
Council

Director Onassis Center For Hellenic Studies

New York University seeks nominations and applications for the position of Onassis Professor of Hellenic Studies and Director of the Onassis Center for Hellenic Studies at New York University. Candidates for this dual position must be scholars with an outstanding publication record in any aspect of Greek civilization as it has evolved over the centuries, and must be fully qualified for a tenured appointment in a traditional discipline as well as in Hellenic Studies. A strong commitment to teaching is important. While administrative experience is not essential, candidates must have the capacity to lead, within the context of the Faculty of Arts and Science of an internationally important research university, the efforts of a group of outstanding scholars in Hellenic Studies. Candidates must be able to conduct business in both English and Modern Greek. Nominations should be sent by June 1, 1987, to:

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Arts and Science
5 Washington Square North
New York, New York 10003
Attn: Elizabeth Robinson

NYU is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

Teesside Polytechnic School of Information Engineering

Teesside Polytechnic is pleased to announce further senior posts in its School of Information Engineering. Teesside Polytechnic is strong in all the important technologies which form the component parts of Information Engineering. It is being encouraged by Government initiatives to expand on its established strength in these areas. The new School of Information Engineering is expected to grow quickly to 1200 FTE students with a staff of about 100. It will incorporate the existing highly successful departments of Computer Science and Instrumentation 8 Control Engineering, as well as the experienced effective CAD unit first established in 1979.

In Summer 1987 the first phase of the new Information Technology building comes on stream to augment the considerable provision of buildings and equipment which support these developments.

As a consequence of this major development, a number of new posts are being created. Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced candidates as follows:-

ASSOCIATE DEANS/ HEADS OF DIVISIONS - 2 POSTS

Grade VI Salary: £19,638 - £21,639 per annum

ASSOCIATE DEAN/HEAD OF DIVISION OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

ASSOCIATE DEAN/HEAD OF DIVISION OF POSTGRADUATE CONVERSION STUDIES AND CAD (This post is funded in part by a major computer manufacturer)

The general duties associated with these posts will include:

- 1) The provision of strong academic leadership in the development of the relevant subject areas associated with a particular division.
- 2) The full responsibility for the day to day running of courses assigned to the division by the school board.
- 3) Advising on the development of new and existing courses associated with the School.
- 4) The responsibility for the conduct and work of the academic and non-teaching staff assigned to the particular division.

In addition, each Associate Dean will be responsible to the Dean of the School for one or more of the following School wide activities:

- 1) Co-ordination and management of the research within the School.
- 2) The maintenance of a comprehensive staff development programme.
- 3) The responsibility for the operation of the formal academic committee structure in connection with course development, validation and operation.
- 4) Responsibility for the deployment of staff and other resources to the best advantage of the School.
- 5) To co-ordinate the procedures associated with the admission of students.
- 6) To co-ordinate the response of the School in respect of industrial liaison, consultancy and external funding.

TEMPORARY (1 YEAR) SENIOR VISITING FELLOW IN VLSI

Grade VI Salary: £19,638 - £21,639 per annum

The occupant of this post will have the widest remit to develop research, applications and courses over the whole field of VLSI design. This post is funded in part by Apollo Computers (UK) Limited.

LECTURER II/SENIOR LECTURERS IN INFORMATION ENGINEERING - SEVERAL POSTS

Salary: £8,595 - £13,656 (efficiency band) - £14,820 (work ban) - £15,875 per annum

Maximum salary at Lecturer II level appointment £13,656 per annum. Maximum salary at Senior Lecturer level appointment £14,820 per annum. Applicants should have good academic and/or professional qualifications in Computer Science, Information Technology Electronics or related fields. Successful candidates will be encouraged to become involved in Research and Development and to undertake Consultancy. The teaching work covers the whole spectrum of Computer Science and Information Technology at Post-Graduate, Degree and Diploma level.

Further details and application forms obtained from:
The Personnel Section, Teesside Polytechnic, Borough Road,
Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS1 3BA.
Telephone: (0642) 218321, Extension 4114.

Closing date for applications: 22 April 1987
An Equal Opportunity Employer.

Teesside Polytechnic

SENIOR TRANSLATOR/INTERPRETER

THE ABOVE VACANCY EXIST IN THE LANGUAGE SERVICES BRANCH OF FIVEATF HQS (NATO) LOCATED IN VICENZA, ITALY.

Essential qualifications:

- Full proficiency in English, French and Italian.
- University Degree in modern languages or in political, diplomatical, literary sciences or equivalent standard of studies.
- Minimum of three years' experience as a recognised TRANSLATOR/INTERPRETER (Simultaneous and consecutive).

Duties:

- Translation and interpretation in all three languages.

Basic Monthly Salary:

- ILire 4,1/6,200 plus applicable allowances: health insurance and pension scheme coverages.

Please apply in writing not later than 30th April 87 enclosing C.V. and photocopies of probatory documents to:

FIVEATF HQS
Personnel Division
c/o Aeroporto DAL MOLIN
36100 VICENZA, ITALY.



THE CAMERON FUND SECRETARY

The Council of Management invites applications for the post of Secretary of The Cameron Fund Limited, which is a registered medical charity. The successful applicant will be the senior administrative officer and case work is an important part of the job. Knowledge of State Benefits and charity work generally would be an advantage and secretarial skills are essential. Age range 40-50 preferred. Salary negotiable on a scale commencing at £15,000 per annum including London Weighting. Contributory pension scheme.

A job description may be obtained from the Secretary at the following address: -The Cameron Fund, Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JP. Telephone 01 388 0796.

Closing date: 16th May.

Royal Holloway and Bedford New College UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

ACCOUNTANT

Applications are invited for a post of Accountant. Major areas of responsibility include the development of management information and budgetary control systems, with particular reference to trading accounts.

An appropriate professional qualification is essential.

This post is on Grade 3 of the national salary structure for University Administrative staff £15,415 - £18,210 a year, plus London allowance of £1,393 a year.

Application forms are available from Mrs A Overington, Personnel Office. The closing date for applications is 24th April, 1987.

ASHRAM COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

SENIOR EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT WORKER (AP5 - £15,150)

For community employment project in Salford, Greater Manchester, to develop employment resources, especially small businesses, co-operatives and community enterprises in many Asian neighbourhoods.

Background in employment development, social business advice, consultancy or marketing work, plus previous experience of working in multicultural context.

Details from: The Co-ordinator, Community Action Group, Service Project, 22/25 Chesham Road, Salford, M6 6PU. Tel: 0161 774 7661

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

CONTINUED
FROM PAGE 31

COMPANY/COMMERCIAL EC2

On behalf of this respected medium sized City firm, we are seeking to recruit a number of ambitious lawyers seeking to gain responsibility for a demanding case-load within a rapidly expanding department. Candidates will be between 0 and 5 years qualified and demonstrate excellent experience, particularly in corporate finance related matters. Highly competitive salaries are on offer.

PRIVATE CLIENT £High

On behalf of our clients, a major international firm of Chartered Accountants and a leading Legal practice, we are seeking high calibre Private Client Solicitors with a minimum of two years' relevant experience. Applicants should have qualified with a respected firm and must be adaptable and ambitious with an interest in quality personal tax planning work.

For details of these and other vacancies please contact John Cullen or Judith Farmer.

QUALIFYING IN 1987? LONDON/PROVINCES

We welcome enquiries from Articled Clerks throughout the U.K. due to qualify in 1987 who would like the opportunity to discuss, on an informal basis, the opportunities open to them in private practice, both in Central London and the provinces. Positions in all fields of the law carry with them increasingly attractive remuneration and prospects.

CORPORATE FINANCE From £22,000 + Bens

On behalf of a number of leading City Merchant Banks and Stockbrokers, we are recruiting high calibre lawyers to join expanding corporate finance teams. Applicants aged 26-32 will have gained quality post-qualification experience with a leading City firm of solicitors and will be required to demonstrate commercial awareness and excellent inter-personal skills.

TRANSACTION EXECUTION LAWYER

£Neg + Benefits

Our client, a major International Investment House seeks a qualified lawyer to join its Transaction Execution team. The group, which forms part of the Corporate Finance Department, is principally concerned with the documentation of bond issues and commercial paper programmes.

Aged between 25-30, applicants must have at least one year's relevant experience gained either in another Financial Institution or a major City practice. For the right candidate, this represents an excellent opportunity for progression into other banking areas. Salary will be commensurate with age and experience, and the remuneration package will include the full range of banking benefits.

For details of this and other vacancies please contact Judith Farmer.

School of Business and Social Sciences LECTURER GRADE II/ SENIOR LECTURER IN LAW

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in Law to commence from 1 September 1987. No particular subject specialism is sought although a willingness and ability to teach law in its social and economic context would be particularly advantageous. Applicants should have an Honours Degree in Law, a higher degree and a record of research and publication would be added advantages as would experience of legal practice. Informal enquiries can be made to the head of the Law Academic Group, Phil Parry, on Harford 558451. Salary: £2 to £13938 SL to £15155

Application forms and further details from the Staffing Officer, The Hatfield Polytechnic, PO Box 108, Hatfield, AL10 9AB or phone Hatfield (07872) 79002. Please quote reference 268. Closing date for completed applications 30 April 1987.

*The Hatfield
Polytechnic*

BADENOCH & CLARK

THE LEGAL AND FINANCIAL RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS
16-18 NEW BRIDGE STREET, BLACKFRIARS, LONDON EC4
TELEPHONE: 01-583 0073 OR 01-587 0208 (EVENINGS & WEEKENDS)

BADENOCH & CLARK

THE LEGAL AND FINANCIAL RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS
16-18 NEW BRIDGE STREET, BLACKFRIARS, LONDON EC4
TELEPHONE: 01-583 0073 OR 01-587 0208 (EVENINGS & WEEKENDS)

INTERNATIONAL BANKING & FINANCE LAWYERS

As a result of the merger between Clifford-Turner and Coward Chance our international banking and finance practice will increase in size and scope.

We are looking for solicitors who wish to train in international banking and financial work as well as those with relevant experience. If you are an able young lawyer and are keen to become involved in the stimulating challenge of international banking and financial law, we would like to hear from you.

For those who might consider developing their careers abroad, while continuing active involvement in financial work, opportunities will arise to work in one of our overseas offices.

We offer an attractive and relaxed working atmosphere where individual responsibility and initiative are encouraged, the emphasis being on the acquisition of a broad range of experience. We also provide continuing in-house training and education to equip our lawyers to meet the growing demands of our work.

A comprehensive and competitive remuneration package will be offered.

Application should be made in writing, together with a curriculum vitae, to:

Amel Cates,
Clifford-Turner,
Blackfriars House,
19 New Bridge Street,
London EC4V 6BY

David Stone,
Coward Chance,
Roxey House,
Aldermanbury Square,
London EC2V 7LD.

**CLIFFORD
-TURNER**

**COWARD
CHANCE**

Brussels, Hong Kong, London, New York, Paris, Singapore, United Arab Emirates
Associated offices: Amsterdam, Bahrain, Madrid, Saudi Arabia, Tokyo

LEGAL EXECUTIVE

INSURANCE
CITY

We have an outstanding reputation for the successful management of Mutual Insurance Associations and are pursuing a vigorous programme of expansion in the area of Professional Indemnity.

We need additional expertise for our Professional Indemnity Division and are looking for a talented young professional person who wants to be in at the early stages of ambitious new ventures.

Your initial role will be one of support to a project leader, helping to drive, from concept to launch, new professional indemnity associations. There will be a particularly heavy involvement in feasibility studies, liaison with potential members and professional advisers and drafting of legal documentation. There are excellent later opportunities for project leading and for front-line management responsibility for new associations.

You will need to be analytical and numerate, well-organised and able to project your ideas convincingly. You are likely to be between the ages of 27 and 32 and possess a legal qualification. Experience of insurance will be especially helpful.

If you have the energy and imagination to assist in developing new areas of business and are looking for genuine management responsibility you will enjoy our highly professional environment with its emphasis on excellence, service and integrity. A competitive salary and attractive benefits will be available.

Please write providing full educational and career details to:

Richard Scambler, Personnel Director
THOMAS MILLER & CO.

International House, 26 Creech Lane, London EC3A 5BA
Tel. 01-283 4646

Loan Capital Trusts

Senior appointment

Competitive salary etc
London

As a result of continuing expansion, our client The Law Debenture Corporation p.l.c. wishes to make a senior appointment to its new issues team which is responsible for the setting up of trusteeships, principally for Eurobond issues.

Applicants aged 25 to 35 should offer experience of corporate trust administration or related experience working in a legal, accounting or corporate finance environment in

the City. An appropriate professional qualification would be an advantage.

A competitive salary based upon ability and previous experience will be offered plus an excellent package of fringe benefits. Prospects of further career advancement are realistic within an expanding and progressive organisation.

Other Appointments
In addition to the above, there are opportunities at a less senior level in

the Trust Administration Department and those interested should also reply.

Applicants can make application by quoting MCS/7212A and enclosing a full CV plus salary history to:
Michael R. Andrews
Executive Selection Division
Price Waterhouse
Management Consultants
No. 1 London Bridge
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Applicants are invited from qualified lawyers wishing to expand their music business experience and develop a career within the PolyGram group of music companies. To apply, please send a detailed CV and covering letter to Veronica Spicer, Personnel Department, PolyGram UK Limited, PO Box 2LB, 15 Saint George Street, London W1A 2BL. Telephone 01-499 0422 ext 815.

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In addition to an excellent commencing salary, other benefits will include a company car and relocation expenses in appropriate circumstances. Please apply in strictest confidence to Peter Mannes, BA Law, Daniels Bates Partnership Ltd., Manchester Office, Tel: (061) 835 3381, quoting ref: 87/M/338T.

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Applicants should have a good knowledge of the law and be able to handle a wide range of cases.

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Dynamic young solicitor required for thriving and rapidly expanding (North) Norfolk firm. Salary £10,000 pa + car. Work will initially be general practice but with opportunity to develop in specialised fields. Excellent prospects for the right candidate.

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C.S. 400

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LAWYERS FOR HONG KONG

Baker & McKenzie is one of the largest and most rapidly growing firms of solicitors in Hong Kong with over 80 lawyers. The firm has more than 300 lawyers in the Pacific Basin, with offices in Melbourne, Sydney, Singapore, Manila, Bangkok, Hong Kong, Taipei, Tokyo and San Francisco. The firm also has lawyers in Beijing and Shanghai.

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Our intellectual property practice includes legal actions against counterfeiting in Hong Kong and other Asian jurisdictions, licensing, technology transfer and computer-related contracts. Applicants for this position should have between one and two years' experience in intellectual property litigation in a specialised practice. This position will involve work in all aspects of intellectual property work in Hong Kong. The successful applicant will also be required to assist with the co-ordination of our regional practice.

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COMPANY AND COMMERCIAL

Our company and commercial practice includes public company matters, acquisitions, mergers, joint ventures and a wide range of general assignments, usually with an international flavour. We need at least two lawyers with preferably not less than four years' post-qualification experience.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

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If you are due to be admitted as a solicitor in the autumn, we can help you to decide upon the wide range of opportunities that we currently have available both in private practice and in industry. If you are considering a move on qualifying, we would be delighted to hear from you.

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If you would like further information about these positions, please telephone Simon Anderson or Steven Grubb on 01-831 2000 (01-241 3528 evenings or weekends) or write to them at The Legal Division, Michael Page Partnership, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH.



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Tel: (0222) 44731

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D. JOYCE,
Group Employee Relations Executive,
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Our client is a long established firm of solicitors working from impressive offices in the City. They are currently looking for solicitors or barristers who already have experience in, or who wish to specialise in the fields of company/commercial (including banking and corporate finance), commercial litigation and commercial property law.

Recent years have seen rapid overall growth of the firm and the partners are confident of continued expansion and success. Working conditions and prospects are excellent for the right candidates.

For further information on these and other vacancies in London and the Provinces, please contact:-

CLAIRE WISEMAN
on 01-387 5400
(eves. and weekends)
(01-740 0289)

Legal Selection Services,
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London WC1H 0AN.

Debenham & Co.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Debenham & Co. is a small, well established firm in Knightsbridge whose clients include quoted property companies and institutions.

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In addition to a competitive starting salary, we offer a pleasant and friendly working environment together with excellent prospects.

For an informal discussion please telephone our self partner, Geraldine Cogan on 01-581 2471 or write to her with CV to Debenham & Co., 20 Hans Road, Knightsbridge, London SW3 1RT.

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Join a highly motivated team. The London office of a major New York - based American law firm seeks an energetic university graduate to assist in various phases of transactional work and other matters related to its corporate and tax practice. Applicants should have excellent verbal and written communications skills. Previous experience with American corporate legal practice, although preferred, is not required. Salary £15,000 p.a.

Send resume to:
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London EC4A 3LT

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Arising from the retirement of the partner at our Watlington office, we seek an energetic young Solicitor with at least three years' experience in domestic and commercial conveyancing to run this office. A general salary and excellent prospects are available to the right applicant.

A Solicitor with similar experience is required to assist an over-worked Partner with expanding workload in one of our North London offices. Please write or telephone - 11 Bank Street, London, E.C.2.
Tel: 01-360 4531.

ASHFORD KENT

This busy old-established practice with substantial client base (private commercial and agricultural) seeks two newly-qualified Solicitors for its non-contentious department. Excellent salaries and partnership prospects.

Apply J S Lowings, Hallatt & Co., 11 Bank Street, London, E.C.2.
Telephone (0233) 25711 or at evenings and weekends (023 377 388).

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Extremely busy but friendly general practice seeks good all rounder up to three years qualified with general/commercial experience. We are a three partner firm situated in attractive 17th Century premises on the Southern edge of Hertsmere but within walking distance of the Northern line. Newly qualified applicants with good recent experience in A&P will be considered. Excellent remuneration offered.

Please apply with CV to S T Sloan of DENRICK BROSSE & CO, 12 Wood Street, Barnet, Herts EN5 4BQ.

BARRISTERS' CLERK

Wanted for set of Chambers in the Temple. Good opening for intelligent man or woman with 'A' levels. Some legal or clerking experience desirable. Duties include bookkeeping and office administration. Apply with brief CV to BOX A95 c/o The Times.

United hoping history does not repeat itself at Upton Park

Manchester United will be praying that history does not repeat itself tonight when they go to West Ham United for a rearranged first division game. It was at Upton Park in an FA Cup fifth-round tie last March that Bryan Robson again dislocated his shoulder and missed most of the rest of the season, returning, temporarily, in a harness that did not provide him with the security to last out England's World Cup campaign.

Robson, who, thankfully, has avoided serious injury to date this year, is in a United side missing another of its leading performers in the middle, Norman Whiteside, who is still out with a knee injury.

With John Sivebeck otherwise engaged, at Anfield, playing for Denmark in the practice match against Liverpool, Mike Duxbury will drop back into defence to fill the gap and Kevin Moran could be recalled at centre half now that he is fit again.

Terry Gibson is the most likely replacement up front for Nicky Wood who has been ruled out by the calf injury he sustained in Saturday's home

reserve team game against Sunderland. Liam O'Brien could stand down for the return of Gordon Strachan.

West Ham will be strengthened in attack but weakened in defence. Two forwards, Frank McAvennie and Mark Ward, return after suspension but the knee ligament injury received by Tony Gale in the 4-0 rout at Everton means that Neil Orr, who came on as substitute at Goodison Park, will probably remain in a reshuffled back line.

Two of West Ham's other centre backs, Alvin Martin and Paul Hilton are already out, and a third who can play there, Steve Walford joined the casualties yesterday with an infected groin. All of which means that West Ham will keep the 40-year-old Billy Bonds as centre back partner to newcomer, Gary Strodder.

Paul Wilkinson will be anxious to prove himself to Brian Clough tonight when he takes over from Gary Birtles in Nottingham Forest's attack at Sheffield Wednesday. Wilkinson was signed from Everton for £250,000 three

weeks ago as an eventual replacement for Birtles.

Colin Foster, a recent signing from Orient, makes his full debut in place of the suspended Chris Fairclough in defence while another new member of the Forest squad, Kjetil Osvald, the Norwegian international, stands by for his first appearance as Franz Carr fails a fitness test on a hamstring injury.

Leeds United visit Shrewsbury seeking to strengthen their promotion bid with their manager Billy Bremner anxious that his players forget the draining FA Cup semi-final defeat against Coventry City.

Although several players reported minor bumps and bruises after the cup tie, Leeds expect to be at full strength for a game which is as crucial to the home side who are in danger of relegation to the third division. They will have David Geddis back after suspension. Paul Johnson, who has recovered from a groin strain, also returns, at full back.

Blackburn Rovers, who until recently were also threatened by the drop, may again be without David Mail and Chris Price for the home game with Reading. Both defenders, who missed Saturday's match against Barnsley face fitness tests.

Bournemouth, the third division leaders, will be looking for a club record of 25 league wins in a season in their match at Wigan.

Just the ticket Chelsea's allocation of tickets for the Mercantile Credit Football League centenary match at Wembley on August 8 will be made available to season ticket holders and club members.

Danes bridge a gap

By Ian Ross

Anfield will play host to senior European football for the first time in two years tonight when Liverpool meet the Danish national side. The game has been arranged to help Denmark's European championship preparations, but will be regarded by the English as the latest stage of a rehabilitation programme after the Heysel stadium tragedy in Brussels when 39 people died in rioting which preceded the European Cup final against Juventus.

Charlton recalls O'Leary

Dave O'Leary is back in the Republic of Ireland squad for the European championship tie against Belgium at Lansdowne Road, on April 29. The 28-year-old Arsenal centre half, out of favour with the Republic's manager, Jackie Charlton, is one of four centre backs in the squad of 20.

O'Leary last played for the Republic against Wales in the spring of 1986 when he won his fourth cap. Charlton said: "With Mark Lawrence injured, Dave has come back into my plans." Kevin Sheedy, recovered from injury, is also in the squad.

Four referees to stay on Four leading English referees due to step down at the end of the season have been retained by the Football League. Neville Ashley, Colin Downey, John Martin, and George Tyson have been asked to stay on the Football League referees list for the 1987-88 season. Ashley, 48, has a normal retirement age of 48 to add experience in a year when an abnormal number of young referees are coming onto the list.

Rival World Cup hosts

Zurich (Reuters) - Four countries - Brazil, Chile, Morocco and the United States - are all interested in hosting the 1994 World Cup finals. FIFA said yesterday. Algeria, Benin, and South Korea had also originally applied but South Korea pulled out without explanation and FIFA have not heard from Algeria or Benin since. The final decision will be taken on June 30 next year, with Brazil widely regarded as favourites.

SNOW REPORTS				
Depth (cm)	U	P	Conditions	Weather (°C)
Austria Oberurgl	120	200	good	varied good snow
France Les Arcs	80	180	good	spring good fair
France Flaine	128	228	good	powder good fine
Switzerland Tignes	180	285	good	powder good fair
Switzerland Verbier	100	200	good	powder good snow
Switzerland Zermatt	30	210	good	powder fair fine
Spain	10	130	good	varied poor fine

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, U refers to upper slopes and P to upper, and art to artificial.

SPAIN Depth (cm) 15 30 45 60 75 90 105 120 135 150 165 180 195 210 225 240 255 270 285 300 315 330 345 360 375 390 405 420 435 450 465 480 495 510 525 540 555 570 585 600 615 630 645 660 675 690 705 720 735 750 765 780 795 810 825 840 855 870 885 900 915 930 945 960 975 990 1005 1020 1035 1050 1065 1080 1095 1110 1125 1140 1155 1170 1185 1200 1215 1230 1245 1260 1275 1290 1305 1320 1335 1350 1365 1380 1395 1410 1425 1440 1455 1470 1485 1500 1515 1530 1545 1560 1575 1590 1605 1620 1635 1650 1665 1680 1695 1710 1725 1740 1755 1770 1785 1800 1815 1830 1845 1860 1875 1890 1905 1920 1935 1950 1965 1980 1995 2010 2025 2040 2055 2070 2085 2100 2115 2130 2145 2160 2175 2190 2205 2220 2235 2250 2265 2280 2295 2310 2325 2340 2355 2370 2385 2400 2415 2430 2445 2460 2475 2490 2505 2520 2535 2550 2565 2580 2595 2610 2625 2640 2655 2670 2685 2700 2715 2730 2745 2760 2775 2790 2805 2820 2835 2850 2865 2880 2895 2910 2925 2940 2955 2970 2985 3000 3015 3030 3045 3060 3075 3090 3105 3120 3135 3150 3165 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GOLF

Mize 'miracle' shatters Norman and has Ballesteros in tears

From Mitchell Platts, Golf Correspondent, Augusta

Larry Mize won the hearts of millions and broke those of Greg Norman and Severiano Ballesteros with his audacious winning stroke in the 51st United States Masters on the Augusta National course here on Sunday.

It was riveting theatre for a global television audience as Mize chipped in from 45 yards at the second extra hole to leave Norman speechless as Ballesteros unashamedly wept.

Sport thrives on the underdog and there have been few more extraordinary happenings in golf than a Georgian, aged 28, returning to the town where he grew up and then making a piece of history by ousting the two finest players in the game.

Ballesteros brought about his own downfall by unaccountably taking three putts at the first extra hole, the 10th. The Spaniard could no longer contain his emotions and the tears of frustration, which he spilled on the lonely walk back to the cloistered clubhouse, were testimony to his passionate intensity.

Norman, however, could only watch in mesmerized disbelief as, at the second extra hole, Mize's running pitch-shot sped across the green and the ball toppled into the cup. "I don't think Larry could speak at that moment, and I certainly couldn't," Norman confessed.

For the affable Australian had not only lost the Masters for a second successive year, but it was only in the previous August that another freakish shot had robbed him of the US PGA Championship.

"I reckon Larry's was 30 per cent harder to make than Bob Tway's bunker-shot at Inverness," said Norman. "Larry could go back to that spot and try for the next three days and not make the shot. I'm sure it's the most amazing shot that has ever won a major championship."

Ballesteros quickly emptied his locker in the Champions' Room, upstairs in the clubhouse, while a disconsolate Norman sat down below, wondering whether he would ever gain entry to that inner sanctum to change alongside

the likes of other Masters' champions such as Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, Tom Watson and now Mize.

Yet, perhaps because Norman has been down this particular road on more occasions than Ballesteros, there was a strong vein of expectation mixed with the natural disappointment as he reviewed his case, while the inconsolable Spaniard sped off into the night.

"I'm probably more disappointed now than I've ever been in my career," added Norman. "I'm just glad I'm playing for the next four weeks."

Final scores

(US unless stated)
285: L. Mize, 70, 72, 72, 71; G. Norman (Aust), 73, 74, 69, 72; S. Ballesteros (Spa), 73, 71, 70, 71. Ballesteros won at second extra hole.
286: J. Mack, 74, 72, 71, 69; B. Crenshaw, 75, 67, 74; R. Mullins, 76, 69, 70, 74.
287: J. Nicklaus, 74, 72, 73, 70; J. Hume, 71, 72, 72; D. A. Williams, 72, 76, 71, 71; T. Watson, 71, 72, 74, 72; B. Langer (West), 71, 72, 70, 76.
288: M. Cumber, 75, 71, 69, 76; L. Wadkins, 73, 72, 70, 75; T. Chen (Taiwan), 74, 68, 71, 76; C. Beck, 75, 72, 70, 73; C. Strahan, 71, 70, 73, 76.
289: B. C. Watson, 73, 72, 78, 69; C. Sander, 74, 74, 72, 71; P. Koeber, 77, 73, 69, 72; S. Lyle (GB), 77, 74, 68, 72.
290: B. Wadkins, 76, 69, 73, 74.
291: J. K. Kim, 73, 74, 74, 73; M. O'Meara, 75, 74, 71, 71; J. Cook, 69, 73, 78.
292: C. Pavitt, 71, 71, 81, 75; F. Zoller, 76, 71, 76, 72; D. Watson (SA), 75, 74, 73, 72; D. Hammond, 73, 75, 74, 76; D. Graham (Aust), 73, 77, 72, 73.
293: C. Fries, 71, 77, 75, 73; G. Sauer, 75, 73, 74, 74.
294: G. Payer (SA), 75, 75, 71, 76; H. Clark (GB), 74, 71, 77, 76; J. Sorensen, 74, 70, 81, 72; H. Green, 80, 71, 74, 72; J. Manthey, 73, 75, 78, 72; A. Bean, 75, 69, 78, 73; M. Wade, 73, 74, 71, 73.
295: P. Stewart, 71, 75, 74, 76; J. Miller, 75, 75, 71, 77; J. Thorne, 77, 74, 78, 71.
296: D. Fodley, 76, 75, 76, 73; K. Knox, 75, 76, 75, 75; D. Frost (SA), 76, 70, 77, 78.
297: M. Hubert, 78, 75, 71, 78.
298: S. Lutzke, 76, 74, 77, 76.
299: M. O'Grady, 72, 75, 79, 75; D. Barr (Can), 79, 68, 79, 79; S. Casper, 77, 74, 75, 78; T. Aaron, 72, 76, 76, 81.
300: R. C. Lewis (amateur), 74, 77, 78, 79.

because, if I went home right now, I might be throwing things against the wall for the next five days.

"But I'll swallow the pill, as hard as it is, and a kick in the pants like this will make me all the more determined to turn 1987 into an even better year than 1986."

Meanwhile, Mize, better known for collapsing when in contention — he is cruelly nicknamed "D-Mize" — was still trying to come to terms with his astonishing achievement. "I finally won my

second tournament as a professional, and I picked a right doozy to win," he mumbled.

His father, a scratch player, was so crazy about the game that he gave Larry the middle name of Hogan and then introduced his son to golf at the age of nine with an old set of clubs that had had the tops sawn off.

Mize might have won the title — and the little matter of £100,000 — with a million-to-one shot, but it was his composure that earned him the place in the sudden-death finish with an excellent approach to the 18th green, for which he was rewarded with a birdie from 6 feet.

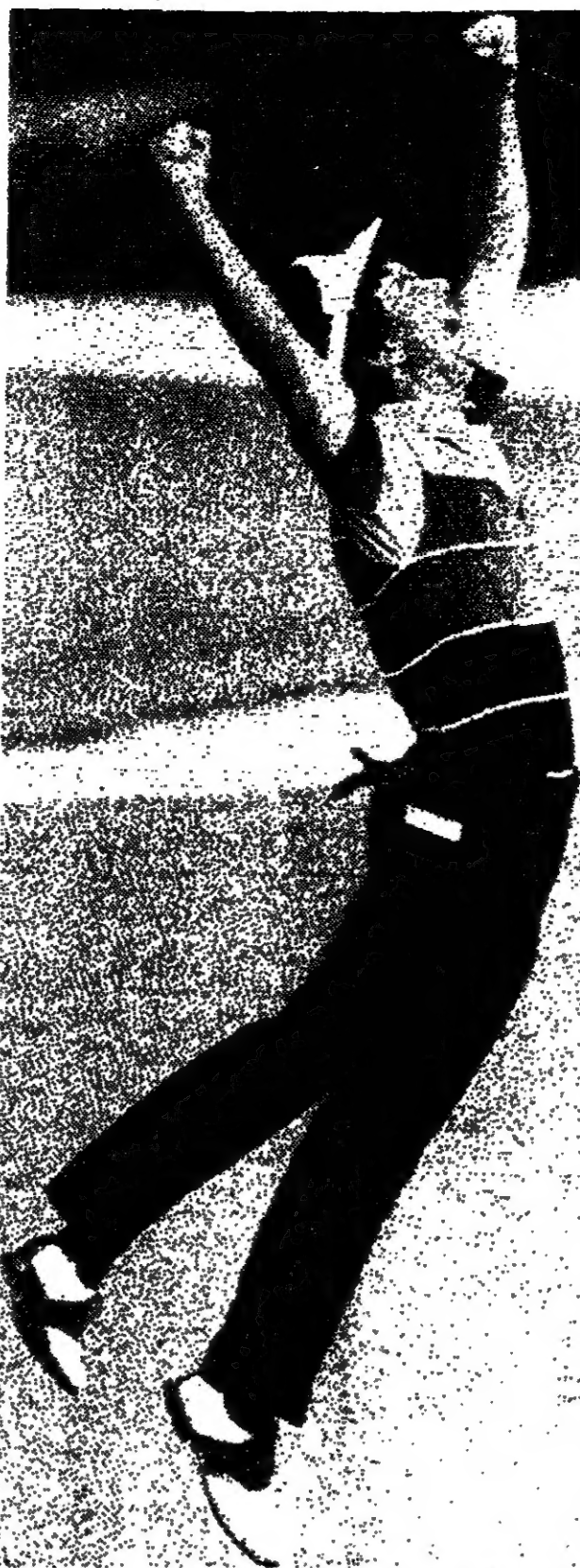
Mize signed for a 71 and a three-under-par score of 285, but his hopes of glory appeared to diminish as first Ballesteros (71) and then Norman (72) moved alongside him.

In retrospect, any one of the several leading golfers in the world today could have gained a clear-cut victory. But Ballesteros' commitment is such right now that he has lost the knack of enjoying his golf in the major championships, which is possibly the reason for his not winning one since the Open at St Andrews in 1984.

Norman dispelled any doubt surrounding his ability to win a major when he strolled away with the Open Championship last summer. But he still lost this US Masters — as he did the one 12 months ago — out in the country by dropping four shots in seven holes from the sixth at a time when he should have been in control.

Ben Crenshaw's putting stroke failed him at the 17th, when the pressure became unbearable, and Bernhard Langer looked as unhappy with the putter as I have seen him since those faraway days when his dreams were nullified by the 'yips'.

In fact, it was the US Masters in which the cream rose to the top, with Tom Watson and Nicklaus also snapping at the heels of the leaders — only for the 'fat cats' to be licked by a home-town boy named Larry Hogan Mize.



Jumping for joy: Mize after holing his winning pitch-shot

Ogrin wins by a stroke

Hattiesburg (Reuter) — David Ogrin, of the United States, carded a six-under-par 64, for a final score of 267, yesterday to beat Nick Faldo, of Britain, by a stroke in the Hattiesburg PGA tournament.

Faldo played steadily all week, but he left a few putts short to fall short himself. "A foot more on some of my putts and it might have been a

RUGBY LEAGUE

Blackpool hope for security in numbers

By Keith Macklin

The directors of Blackpool Borough will tonight make a last-ditch attempt to save the professional game in the town when they discuss a proposal, under which the present board will be augmented by new directors to a maximum of 13, with a resultant injection of funds.

It seemed that Borough were doomed when the local council refused to foot the bill for £25,000 essential repairs to the Princess Street ground under the Safety of Sports Grounds Act. Borough moved temporarily to the football ground at Bloomfield Road but suffered further due to the loss of car parking fees and social club income.

Talks have taken place with councilors in Stockport and Bolton with a view to a move to another venue, and Wigan Athletic Football Club have been reported to be interested in a ground-sharing scheme with rugby league at Springfield Park.

The Polytechnic Stadium at Chiswick will stage a double event on Sunday, May 3, the day after the Silk Cut challenge cup final at Wembley. The hosts will be the London Amateur Rugby League, who will field a representative team to play a French Army XIII at 1 p.m. That match will be followed at 3 p.m. by the league's own challenge cup final, between London Colonials and South London.

TENNIS

Mecir plays a cat and mouse game to earn the praise

From Richard Evans, Dallas

Listed among Miloslav Mecir's growing army of admirers is John McEnroe. Even before Mecir won his fourth title of the year by outplaying McEnroe in the World Championship Tennis (WCT) final here on Sunday, the former Wimbledon champion heaped unusual praise on the Czech who is obviously going to cause him much frustration in the coming months.

"Mecir is an interesting new personality and the game needs that," McEnroe said. "We have things in common. He tries to out think people and keep them off balance. He doesn't look like a tennis player, either, and I don't think I do."

McEnroe, as perceptive and generous off court as he can be blockheaded on it, is right. Mecir could become the game's resident intellectual. He certainly poses some confusing questions. Especially his bearded, sharply chiselled features make him perfect casting for Checco.

When Mecir emerged from Czechoslovakia three years ago, he did a lot of brooding. Bewildered by the brash world in which he found himself, Mecir stunned New Yorkers at last year's US Open when he told them he didn't like their city.

Ivan Lendl found Mecir's attitude equally perplexing — perhaps not quite as baffling.

however, as he found his tennis when the Big Cat, as he is called, unravelled Lendl's game with disdainful ease in the final of the Lipton Players championships at Key Biscayne last month.

Moments of tranquility are important to Mecir whose hobby is to fish. As this titbit is about as much as the Americans have found out about this introverted personality, he is asked about it incessantly. Someone asked what fish he liked to catch best. "Lendl," he replied with a grin. "Big fish."

If Mecir goes on landing fish the size of Lendl, McEnroe and Mats Wilander, trout and salmon may temporarily lose their appeal. Having lost to him here for the fifth time in seven meetings, Wilander suggested Mecir had the capability to become the No. 1 player in the world. More people are inclined to agree after his performance against McEnroe.

Like all great players he has a highly individualistic style and time to spare. Muscular legs carry him with bursts of deceptive speed and his ability to hit the ball on the rise and turn the wrists at the last split second on his two-handed backhand leave players as intuitive and experienced as McEnroe and Wilander totally bemused. Unless his peers learn how to read his mind, Mecir could turn out to be a very big cat indeed.

ICE HOCKEY

Dundee put an end to Fife's flying start

By Norman de Mesquita

While the first four Heineken championship play-off games went according to form, there was plenty of excitement with only one of them offering a lopsided scoreline.

That was at Kirkcaldy where, but for outstanding goalkeeping by John McCrone, Fife Flyers would have beaten Ayr Bruins by an even wider margin than 12-3.

Saturday's other game saw Murrayfield Racers pushed all the way by Nottingham Panthers and, not for the first time, it was a fine performance by Chris Kolland that saw the champions home. He added two goals to some sterling work in defence.

Fife Flyers led 3-1 early in the second period against Dundee Rockets, but a Craig Homola penalty put the home side back in the game. Homola also scored twice early in the final period to

give the Rockets the lead for the first time. Dean Edmiston and Bobby Haig took the Flyers ahead again, but Alistair Wood scored twice to restore the Rockets' lead, and they held on for the last four minutes.

Despite a brave comeback from 7-2 to 7-6 by Murrayfield Racers, Durham Wasps held out for victory in their play-off.

The quarter-finals continue with Nottingham Panthers meeting Durham Wasps home and away tonight and on Thursday, and Dundee Rockets playing Ayr Bruins home and away tomorrow and Thursday.

RESULTS: Heineken championship quarter-finals: Fife Flyers 12, Ayr Bruins 3; Murrayfield Racers 5, Nottingham Panthers 4; Dundee Rockets 7, Fife Flyers 6; Durham Wasps 7, Murrayfield Racers 6; Heineken League last division: Blackpool Seagulls 14, Telford Metros 17; Sunderland 11, Glasgow Eagles 13; Glasgow Eagles 21, Middlesbrough 4; Southampton Wasps 23, Blackpool Seagulls 3.

BOWLS

£300,000 deal for package of top events

The Bristol and West Building Society will inject £300,000 into a series of major and regional tournaments over the next three years — the second biggest sponsorship signed by the English Bowling Association.

The prestige event for the sponsors is the new international knock-out singles, an outdoor tournament featuring two leading players from each of the four home unions at Worthing on August 3 and 4. It will be televised live and is expected to become an annual event.

The Champion of champions tournament will also benefit from the sponsorship package next year. "Thanks to such sponsors our game is undergoing an explosion of support," Cyril Taylor, the EBA president said. "We have already attracted more than 100,000 entries to our national championships and this deal is another important step forward."

10.00 NEWS AT TEN.

10.15 GOOD NEWS. The first report of an important plan to help the long-term unemployed. Bill Kerr Elliott presents a radical analysis of what is now being called The Skills Gap. And what is being done about it. If you live in this country, you can't afford to miss it.

New Zealand to pull out of Cup if England barred

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

Seldom a day goes by without political ramifications threatening to bring down the World Cup, due to be played in India and Pakistan in October and November. Yesterday, the chairman of the New Zealand Cricket Council, Mr Bob Vance, made it unequivocally clear that if England should be kept out of the competition because of the South African "connections" of some of their chosen team, New Zealand will withdraw in protest.

First, some facts. The International Cricket Conference agreed that the 1987 World Cup should be staged in India and Pakistan only after the host countries had given a firm undertaking that they would admit unconditionally all players chosen to take part. But for that, the tournament would have been played elsewhere, probably in England again. It may be taken as read, too, that England will brook no interference in the selection of their side.

Those English players who toured South Africa in 1982 against the wishes of the Test and County Cricket Board have already served their three-year ban for doing so. So far as the TCCB are concerned that is the end of the matter.

Anyone spending their English winters coaching and playing in South Africa as individuals rather than as members of a "disapproved" team, has not been in breach of TCCB regulations. In the winter just passed, two or three members of most English county staffs could have been found in the Republic, some of them doing their best to further the game in the black townships.

If West Indies and Zimbabwe go ahead at this year's ICC meeting with a prohibitive resolution, which they have already filed, whereby any sort of contact with South Africa would be enough to disqualify a player from Test cricket, things may change. For the moment, though, no one chosen for England in the World Cup will be ineligible by ICC regulations. "If India refuse visas to anyone for having played in South Africa, it will be at the expense of the World Cup," said Mr Vance.

It is the mention of visas that points to the crux of the problem by involving the politicians. Most cricket boards would prefer to keep politics out of sport, as much for financial as moral considerations. But that, unfortunately, is no longer possible.

And in the case of India, a politician — N K P Salve — is the chairman of their joint World Cup organizing committee.

No one was more disappointed when the tour of an England 'B' side to Bangladesh early last year was called off than the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board. It was the Bangladesh Government, whether directly or not, who told the TCCB to "withdraw four players with South African contacts or else..."

If, as I think he does, President Zia ul-Haq wants to see the World Cup take place in Pakistan, he is unlikely to do anything to put it at risk. Whether the Prime Minister of India, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, will feel the same way may depend on what he considers to be politically most expedient at the time. That, unfortunately, is what it has come to — and Mr Vance is not alone in resenting it.

The chances? I should say that it is a shade of odds slightly against England going to the World Cup — unless the TCCB compromise their principles in a way that they will be very loath to do — and a certainty that the issue will cast a shadow across the coming summer.

Metcalfe named for MCC

By Richard Streeton

Four future candidates for Test places, who all had good seasons last year, have been named by the England selectors to play for MCC against the champion cricket county, Essex, on Wednesday week in the traditional opening fixture at Lord's. Mike Gatting, the England captain, leads the MCC team.

The newcomers at this level are Metcalfe and John Morris, who were the leading scorers in 1986 for Yorkshire and Derbyshire; Jarvis, the promising Yorkshire fast bowler; and Ontong, the Glamorgan all-rounder, whose switch to off-spin has been so successful.

Other interesting choices for a strong side are Robinson, the Nottinghamshire batsman,

and Greg Thomas, the Glamorgan fast bowler. They both faded from Test match consideration after England's disastrous visit to West Indies in 1985-86. The rest of MCC's team is drawn from those who toured Australia this winter, including Whitaker, the Leicestershire batsman, who failed to win a regular Test place.

Metcalfe, aged 23, scored six centuries for Yorkshire in the championships last summer. Metcalfe and Jarvis, who is two years younger, are expected to have key roles in the coming years as Yorkshire rebuilds without Boycott.

Morris made 1,739 runs (average 47.00) in 1986 with confident strokeplay and his selection will bring enormous

pleasure in Derbyshire whose supporters often claim their players are overlooked for representative honours.

Ontong, aged 31, switched from medium pace to off-breaks two years ago and many good judges believe he has England potential as a spinner. Born in Johannesburg, Ontong rejected the chance last year to play for South Africa in an unofficial Test match against the Australian rebels in order not to jeopardise his England chances.

TEAMS: A Metcalfe (Yorkshire), R T Robinson (Nottinghamshire), M W Gatting (Middlesex), capt, J J Whitaker (Derbyshire), J E Morris (Derbyshire), G J Jarvis (Derbyshire), R C Ontong (Glamorgan), P A J DeFreitas (Leicestershire), P H Edwards (Middlesex), J S Thomas (Glamorgan), P W Jones (Yorkshire).

Barnes off to Monaco

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Stuart Barnes has been invited to play in the inaugural Glenlivet Sevens in Monte Carlo next month. The Bath stand-off half, who withdrew from the England squad last month, missing the opportunity to play in the World Cup, will turn out for Public School Wanderers in the eight-team tournament — in company with three other senior internationals, Nigel Melville, David Trick and Teague.

Irish Wolfhounds have four internationals in Mike Gibson, Donal Spring, Ralph Keyes and John Hewitt, but may be forced to discard one player, having picked a 10-man squad.

PUBLIC SCHOOL WANDERERS: D Trick, J Buckton, R Knibbs, S Barnes, N Melville, J McFarland, M Teague, W Galt, P Buckton.

IRISH WOLFHOOUNDS: G O'Kelly, P Purcell, J Hewitt, T Tomney, A Rolland, P Kearney, R Keyes, D Spring, W Burns, M Gibson.

Stuart Barnes, page 57

Soutter in British Open final

By Colin McQuillan

Lucy Soutter, Cirencester's world junior squash champion, who has won every British closed title available to her at the age of 20, yesterday moved to within one match of the most significant open title of them all by beating Liz Irving, of Australia, 9-1, 6-9, 9-1, 9-0 in a 45-minute Hi-Tec British Open championship semi-final at Wembley.

The home crowd's enthusiasm at seeing a maturing English player in her first British Open final was immediately replaced by less-partisan acclaim for Jansher Khan, the Pakistani 17-year-old, who defeated Chris Dittmar, of Australia, 9-4, 4-9, 9-5, 4-9, 9-5 to reach the ultimate squash final at precisely the same age and from which his countryman, Jahangir Khan, began his five and a half years' undefeated domination of the game back in 1981.

Seldom has a British squash audience been treated to a semi-final of such sustained brilliance.

Miss Soutter is a diminutive figure by comparison with many of the athletic players who gather from all over the world for the British Open. But her courage and mental strength are becoming legend in a game that requires hearty measures of both characteristics. She holds the British Under-23 Open title, for which she defeated Miss Irving, aged 22, in January.

Yesterday, Miss Soutter deliberately extended the hard opening game to draw the sting of the girl whose disciplined shot-making the previous day had removed Lisa Opie, the British champion, then accelerated to increasingly-confident victory as the taller, older girl began to tire.

"It helps to have a recent victory over an opponent," said Miss Soutter, who lost last year to Miss Opie in the quarter-finals. "I lost my British title to Lisa in November and I've worked very hard in training to peak here after that disappointment. The Under-23 win was an important stepping stone in that preparation."

RESULTS: Men's quarter-finals: R Martin (AUS) to S Davenport (NZL), 9-10, 10-8, 9-7, 6-9, 9-0. Semi-finals: Jansher Khan (PAK) to C Dittmar (AUS), 9-4, 4-9, 9-5, 4-9, 9-5. Women's quarter-finals: L Soutter to L Irving (AUS), 9-1, 6-9, 9-1, 9-0.



Headlines: Honeyghan at his Tottenham gym gets a helping hand from trainer Bobby Neil (Photograph: Hugh Routledge)

Blocker's contract is signed and sealed

By Ian Ross

It could have been financially embarrassing for Mickey Duff, the boxing promoter, and his partner Mike Barrett, if contractual agreement had not been reached yesterday with the Washington welterweight, Maurice Blocker.

Unbeaten Blocker, in London to challenge Lloyd Honeyghan for his world WBC and IBF titles at the Royal Albert Hall on Saturday, has brought an enormous back-up team with him for the biggest contest of his 24-hour career.

The 23-year-old Blocker has sparring partners Simon Brown — at one time mentioned as a Honeyghan opponent — and Osley Silas, trainers Fred Brown and Peter Davidson, as well as technical consultant, Bob Miles. And to follow, agent James Cook, lawyer Charles Rosenblatt, cut man Don Nelson — and perhaps more.

To ship Blocker's crew back across the Atlantic without a contest would doubtless have cut deeply into the profits of the promotion. But the problems were quickly overcome and stand-by opponent, Marlon Starling, was told to stay in America, and go through with his planned bout at the weekend in Hartford, Connecticut.

Blocker, immensely tall for a welterweight at 6ft 1in, said: "I do believe I am here to win, but I will make no prediction, because that is something I never do."

"I haven't lost as a professional and I can't remember when I lost as an amateur. I have not been put down in my boxing life but that is something I do not want to dwell on, because the professional game is so different to the amateurs. I have always been satisfied with my performances as a professional because so far I have not looked like losing."

Blocker says he is not concerned about the appointment of four European officials. "I didn't bother about it before, when I didn't know who the officials were. Now I know, I'm still not bothered."

Duff took half an hour to reaffirm original terms with Blocker and Miles and said: "As Neville Chamberlain said 'It is peace in our time.'"

Blocker's training camp will not be in Gateshead as originally reported. He will train in the Lonsdale gymnasium in Carnaby Street.

A passport-style membership plan for Old Trafford

By Ian Ross

Manchester United yesterday became the first of English football's leading clubs to announce the introduction of a membership scheme. By the start of next season the club hopes to have issued some 28,000 passport-style passes to comply with recent Government and Football League guidelines.

At present only two first division clubs — Luton Town, with a 100 per cent membership scheme, and Leicester City, with a less comprehensive system — have acted on recommendations made in the wake of the 1985 Brussels disaster and aimed at curbing crowd trouble.

The 50 per cent membership plan for Old Trafford covers the ground's Stretford end as well as other standing and seated sections. The cost of obtaining a pass will be £5, but supporters will receive a number of benefits, including reduced prices for first-team matches, ticket priority for big games and free admission to all Central League fixtures.

Andy Williamson, the Football League spokesman, applauded United's decision and said he hoped other major

Leeds will offer new contract to Bremner

By Ian Ross

Leeds United are to offer Billy Bremner, their manager, a new contract, after the team's FA Cup run and challenge for promotion. The directors are keen to keep Bremner at Elland Road until at least 1990. His present contract has just over a year to run.

Leslie Silver, the Leeds chairman, said: "The board would like to show their total confidence in the manager by extending his contract. He has done a fine job, the team spirit is tremendous, and our gates are substantially up on last season."

Yesterday, Bremner was more concerned with lifting his team after their FA Cup semi-final defeat by Coventry on Sunday, prior to tonight's visit to Shrewsbury. "We still have promotion to aim for", he said.

John King, who this season guided Caernarfon Town to their best FA Cup run, has been appointed manager of Tranmere Rovers for the second time. King, who was sacked by Tranmere after three years in 1979, took the Welsh team to the third round of the cup where they eventually lost to Barnsley of the second division.

Science scrutiny for football

By Ian Ross

Rugby League and Union, American football, Gaelic football, Australian rules and numerous national variations. The congress has proved so popular that it has been extended from three to five days to ensure that all the 150 papers submitted can be delivered and debated, covering subjects from "maximum ball velocity and peak torques of hip flexor and knee extensor muscles" to the more conventional "psychology of hooliganism". Other topics include nutrition, training, sponsorship, injuries and stress.

The principal lecturer of sports science, Dr Tom Reilly, said: "We have representatives from all the football codes gathered together for the first time. There is a great feeling of unity and that there are many common elements between different codes."

"I think the practitioners within football will go home with a more questioning attitude towards their own sport."

We hope that everyone will gain some knowledge and then put that knowledge into practice.

"While the average football supporter may well be wondering what all the fuss is about, I think the fact that approximately three quarters of our first division soccer clubs will be represented here this week speaks for itself. I don't think alone in believing that science has a great deal to offer sport and football."

Plan to rescue Halifax may not be viable
A £210,000 rescue plan for Halifax Town funded by Calderdale Council is in danger of being scrapped by the former Conservative councillor, Raymond Pearson. He has referred the council's decision to the audit commission — the body which supervises local government spending.

Mr Pearson said that he was one of a group of rate payers who believed that the grant was a misuse of public money since the crisis-stricken fourth division club was insolvent and was likely to incur further debts. Halifax are more than £400,000 in the red. Creditors are being asked to waive their claims to enable the club to continue with the help of the council grant.

● Rotherham United yesterday won a High Court order to have their affairs put into the hands of an administrator, David Stokes of City chartered accountants Cork Gully. Mr Justice Vinelott said there seemed "a lively prospect of the club's survival to face the new season". The Yorkshire club, founded in 1919, was said to owe £789,000.

Under the Insolvency Act 1986, the court may make an administration order to achieve a company's survival.

Brighton solution
Brighton and Hove Albion have moved to a new training ground after many years of poor practice facilities at a string of different venues. It is 15 miles away from their Goldstone Ground at Angmering, home of Worthing rugby club. Brighton have leased part of the 23 acres — which includes first-class changing facilities — where all their South East Counties League games will be played.

Cap for Guest
Lindsay Guest, a student at North Staffs Polytechnic, will win her first cap for Britain in this weekend's women's water polo international matches against France, The Netherlands and West Germany at Walsall. Miss Guest, aged 21, is one of four Potters Bar players in the national squad.

Shriver back
Pam Shriver, the world No. 5, will defend her title in the DOW Chemical £100,000 tennis classic at Edgbaston from June 8 to 14. The American, aged 24, has won the title for the last three years and may face Catarina Lindqvist.

Burton misses out
Chris Burton, Hull Kingston Rovers' great Britain Rugby League forward, will miss the rest of the season after breaking a hand bone.

The cup to fill a vacant shelf

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

John Poynton tells the apocryphal story which serves to illustrate the history of success at his own club. Soon after he had taken over as the chairman of Coventry City, he opened the trophy cabinet at Highfield Road and out trotted Shergar, ridden by Lord Lucan.

Since their formation in 1883, Coventry have won three titles. They collected the championships of the third division south in 1936, the third division in 1964 and the second division in 1967. But, in a cupboard that is otherwise bare, Poynton could next month place the game's most ancient prize, the FA Cup.

Coventry have never reached the final of any competition (their previous highest peak was the last four of the League Cup in 1981). Yet they could not necessarily resemble a collection of nervous novices when they walk out at Wembley behind John Sillett, their coach, on May 16.

Four of the side that are expected to be selected against Tottenham Hotspur have performed there before, though none of them will care to recall the outcome. Bennett, the scorer of their winner against Leeds United on Sunday afternoon, has the most relevant — albeit the oldest — memory.

He was in the Manchester City side that held Tottenham in the 1981 FA Cup final and lost the replay. Next month, when he is likely to carry the weight of Coventry's most promising challenge, he will face a taller, stronger and younger version of himself in Mitchell Thomas.

Pickering, the owner of a full England cap, played for Sunderland in the 1983 Milk Cup final, but remembers little about the occasion. Nor would he choose to. It ended in a 1-0 defeat. "We from on the day," he said. "Norwich were better than us and deserved to win."

Phillips too recalls a Wembley defeat

Phillips, a regular member of the Welsh international squad, has the freshest picture of the National Stadium, although it, too, is clouded with disappointment. He was in the Manchester City lineup that went down 5-4 to Chelsea in the Full Members Cup final some 13 months ago.

Regis is the only representative to have played more than once at Wembley, though each time he was wearing his national colours. In 1982, he made his first appearance for England there, as a substitute. The following year he made his last, and was himself substituted.

Ogrizovic, Coventry's saving grace against Leeds, can claim to have experienced the bright lights, if not at Wembley. As the understudy to Clemence, the opposing goalkeeper in the forthcoming final, he stood on the edge of glory at Liverpool and was once chosen in a European tie.

But, during a career that started with Hillsborough Pathfinders in the Mansfield Youth League, he is most noted for two unusual feats. Earlier this season, he joined the elite list of goalkeepers to have scored. His wind-assisted punt blew in past Hodge, of Sheffield Wednesday, at Hillsborough.

But Ogrizovic is most proud of a moment that took place on the cricket pitch. Playing for Shropshire in a Benson and Hedges Cup tie against Somerset, he was stunned to hear the umpire penalize him for a no-ball. He had just bowled a useful batsman called Viv Richards.

Ogrizovic and his colleagues will be taking on equally illustrious opponents from a different field in a month and Ted Stocker, for one, will be praying for a Coventry triumph. Last year the vice-chairman put £1,000 on the club to win the Cup. Then, the odds were 50-1.

Coventry ask for dual lead at Wembley

By Dennis Shaw

Coventry City plan to ask the FA for special permission to break with tradition and allow both George Curtis and John Sillett to lead the team out in the FA Cup final at Wembley on May 16.

Sillett, the club coach, had been given the honour for the final, against Tottenham, but he wanted Curtis, the managing director, to share the moment of glory.

"Leading our club has been a team effort, and I believe we should share the honour," said Sillett. John Poynton, the chairman, has pledged that profits from the club's run will be available for strengthening the team.

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